

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 8th to 14th February 1870.

MONTH.	Date	Mean reduced Barometer, Inches.	THERMOMETER.			Mean Dry Bulb., °	Mean Wet Bulb., °	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of Humidity.	WIND.			GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Max. Solar radiation, Thermometer.					Prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Daily velocity.	
Feb.	8th	29.881	85.0	65.6	124.5	73.6	68.7	61.9	0.68	S by E & SW	...	79.6	... Clear, Foggy from 3 to 9 A.M.
	9th	29.867	87.0	66.7	128.8	75.5	66.2	59.7	.60	S W	...	121.3	... Clear.
	10th	29.901	87.0	66.5	126.7	75.7	67.1	61.1	.62	S by W & SSW	...	145.7	... Chiefly clear.
	11th	29.928	86.0	66.2	125.5	75.5	66.0	59.3	.59	SW & SSW	...	86.7	... Clear. Slightly foggy at 7 and 8 P.M.
	12th	29.942	87.8	67.3	126.0	76.8	66.5	59.3	.56	SW & SSW	...	107.7	... Clear.
	13th	29.920	88.0	68.2	123.0	77.4	66.6	59.0	.55	SW	...	134.0	... Clear.
	14th	29.889	86.0	68.5	125.0	76.7	67.6	61.2	.60	WSW & WNW	0.7	172.5	... Clear and cirrostrati. Slightly foggy at 11 P.M.

The mean Barometer, as likewise the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity.—The receiver of the lower rain gauge is $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground.—The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	22.4
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	88.0
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	81.6
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0.60
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.78
		Inches.
The total fall of rain from 8th to 14th	...	Nil
	{ by lower rain gauge	Nil
	{ by Anemometer gauge	Nil
Ditto ditto, average of sixteen previous years	...	0.52
Ditto between the 1st January and the 14th current	...	0.77
Ditto ditto ditto, average of 16 years...	...	1.13

GOPEENAUTH SEN,

In charge of the Observatory.

The 15th February 1870.

No. 8

of 1870



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1870.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT, separately, on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 12th February 1870.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, Presiding.

T. H. COWIE, Esq., Advocate-General,
THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN,
A. MONEY, Esq., c.b.,
A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,
V. H. SCHALCH, Esq.,
H. H. SUTHERLAND, Esq.,
RAJAH SATYANUND GHOSAL,

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL,
BABOO CHUNDER MOHUN CHATTERJEE,
T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,
F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,
AND
BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE.

CALCUTTA WATER-RATE.

MR. SCHALCH moved that the report of the select committee on the Bill to empower the Justices of the Peace for the town of Calcutta to levy a water-rate on the town be further considered, in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill. He would take advantage of that opportunity to state that there was a mistake in the notice-paper, in which it was stated that an application would be made to the President to suspend the rules for the conduct of business to enable him (Mr. Schalch) to move that the Bill be passed. That was a mistake: it was distinctly understood at the last meeting that the Bill should not come on for passing till that day fortnight.

The motion was agreed to.

MR. WYMAN said that he would now submit the amendments to which he had referred at the last meeting. He had heard much discussion outside, amongst various classes of society, regarding the proposed clauses. The general feeling seemed to be that the clauses were wholesome, though there were, of course, differences of opinion as to the details. He had heard it objected that the rate of interest of 12 per cent. per annum, proposed to be allowed to the landlord on the outlay incurred by him on account of house-service, was too high; and that the minimum of Rs. 300 annual rent fixed was too low, there being many native houses of considerable size with a lower rental, because native houses were in proportion much cheaper than those in which Europeans resided, and that such houses would at least require more than one tap. It had also been thought very unfair to provide that three taps must be supplied in each floor. One hon'ble member had suggested a proviso to the first clause of the amendment, which he (Mr. Wyman) would read:—

"Provided that no such tenant shall be entitled to give such notice unless the term of his lease shall extend to such a period as that by the above calculation the proprietor will be able to recover half the cost of the work."

It was argued that a tenant might have only six months of his lease to run, and it would be very unjust to compel the owner to expend Rs. 700 in the house-service, with the

chance of getting the next tenant to pay 12 per cent. interest. He (Mr. Wyman) mentioned these matters now without expressing any opinion, because he desired to give fair play to every one concerned. Another objection had been made as to the last clause of the amendments, that it was very unfair to leave the landlord to recover the whole of the amount due from the tenant. With regard to this, however, he believed there was a compensatory clause.

With these general remarks, he would move the introduction, after section 14 of the Bill, of the following new section:—

14A. "It shall be lawful for the tenant holding direct from the owner of any house or land, by notice in writing signed by him, to require the owner of such house or land to perform all such necessary works as may be required for bringing into such house or land a proper and sufficient supply of water for domestic purposes. Every such notice shall contain an undertaking on the part of such tenant to pay 12 per cent. per annum during the residue of his lease, calculated from the date of the completion of the works."

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL moved the addition to the section of the following proviso:—

"Provided that no such tenant shall be entitled to give such notice unless the term of his lease shall extend to such a period as that by the above calculation the proprietor will be able to recover half the cost of the work."

His reason for moving this proviso was, that in the case of a house the lease of which would expire at the end of a year, at the rate of interest calculated in the clause, the proprietor would get only Rs. 36 for a work which would cost him Rs. 300 according to a calculation shown in yesterday's municipal meeting in the Town Hall. Therefore, in such case, he (Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal) thought the owner got almost nothing as compensation. If, however, you reversed the law, and provided that the tenant should pay for the entire cost of introducing water to a house, it would be just as unfair on the other side. He therefore proposed that the expense should be divided between the owner and occupier as was at first suggested; and he had accordingly drawn up this proviso for the consideration of the council.

The ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he had an amendment to propose, which would, perhaps, be more conveniently taken up before the amendment just read out. It appeared to him that instead of either the original motion, that the occupier should simply pay interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum during the residue of his lease, or instead of the proposed amendment that such portion of the lease should remain unexpired as would ensure re-payment of half the outlay, he thought the fairer course would be to introduce a new provision, that the tenant should pay one-half of the cost of the works. It was for him to calculate whether the convenience was such as to be worth the outlay. As regards the section as it stood, a tenant whose lease had five years to run, would, at the rate of 12 per cent. interest, be paying 60 per cent. of the cost, which was, in fact, re-payment by instalments without interest. Why should the owner be obliged to lay out the full amount in the first instance, and be kept out of interest. He (the Advocate-General) apprehended that the fairer course would be that the occupier should pay one-half of the cost if he thought it worth his while to have water introduced in the house; but he should be made liable to pay the one-half on the completion of the works. Suppose the lease of an occupier had only one year to run, and the necessary works cost Rs. 300. As the clause stood, he would have the benefit of the works supplied by the owner for the payment, during the term of his lease, of interest at the rate of 12 per cent., or Rs. 36, and the difference between that and Rs. 300 would fall on the owner. The owner would have to incur the expense on the probability of getting the next tenant to pay the same interest. Probably it would increase the letting value of the house if there was a due supply of water, as there would be a saving in the payment of *bhisees*; but the landlord ran this risk, that from other causes there might be a general reduction of rent, and he might be in the position of never being able to recoup himself. Under these circumstances, the most equitable way of arranging the matter would be to enact, in the way he (the Advocate-General) proposed, that the tenant should undertake to pay half the cost of introducing water, on the completion of the works; if the amount was not paid, interest would run at the Court rate, 6 per cent.

The amendment he proposed ran as follows:—

The omission of all the words after the words "domestic purposes" in line 8 and the substitution of the following:—

"Every such notice shall contain an agreement on the part of such tenant to pay to the owner half of the cost of the works upon the completion of the same."

He had substituted the word "agreement" for "undertaking," as the Stamp Act used the former term; and the stamp required would be an uniform one of eight annas.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said that he thought the amendment moved by the learned Advocate-General was certainly a better one than the amendment he had proposed. He would himself have provided that half of the cost to be borne by the tenant, and to be paid by him at once; but he was afraid that in doing so he would, in the opinion of hon'ble members, be asking too much. He thought it was a fair proposition, and would therefore, with the permission of the President, withdraw his amendment in favour of that moved by the learned Advocate-General.

MR. ROBINSON said that it occurred to him that the amendment of the learned Advocate-General would lead to this difficulty: it would rather tend to frustrate the whole object of the clauses which the council were now considering. As he took it, it was the object of the water-supply works that pure and wholesome water should be supplied to houses; and he thought that the Bill under discussion should be calculated to make it the interest of every body to take the water. Whereas, under the amendment proposed by the Advocate-General, a tenant with a short term of lease would most certainly not apply to the landlord to introduce water. In the European portion of the town, houses were rarely taken for more than two or three years, and very few of these houses would have water laid on. It would not be worth the while of tenants to pay half the cost of introducing water.

MR. WYMAN said, referring to the remarks of the learned Advocate-General, he would mention that though much of what the Advocate-General had said was fair and reasonable; still, after consultation with several hon'ble members, he (Mr. Wyman) had come to the conclusion not to alter his opinion; and that it would not be fair to make the tenant pay one-half of the cost of introducing water into a house. If the matter was put on that principle, the introduction of the water-supply in houses would be a very slow process indeed, because tenants with short terms to run would not have water laid on. The great object was the present and immediate supply of water in houses, without which householders would be unable to derive any advantage for the tax which they paid. Feeling convinced that the owner would be able to recover his outlay by compelling subsequent tenants to pay interest at twelve per cent., or, failing that, by an enhancement of rent, he (Mr. Wyman) thought the clause was better as it stood; and he would therefore oppose the amendment.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said, that with reference to what had fallen from the hon'ble member who spoke last, he did not think it was the direct or relevant way to bring into consideration the general question of the desirableness of the introduction of the supply of water for domestic purposes. There might be sanitary considerations why that should be done; but any principle of that kind ought to be carried out by a compulsory enactment. The present section did not contemplate anything of that kind. In one sense the provision was compulsory, if the tenant chose to make it so: still it was left to the tenant; and inasmuch as any consideration of that kind seemed rather foreign to the present Bill—and he for one was inclined to limit the Bill to the raising of a sufficient fund for paying the interest on the advance made by the Government—he thought the section should be considered with no direct reference to broader questions of that kind. He thought that the provision he proposed, of the tenant paying half the cost on the completion of the works, would be the most fair and equitable.

THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN said that he was unable to support the learned Advocate-General's amendment. As he understood it, the principle which the council had determined to go upon was this, that the cost of laying on water was a permanent work for the improvement of the house which it was desirable to treat, as far as possible, as though it were a portion of the first cost of building. The landlord would recover the usual interest on his outlay by an increased rent; if the incoming tenant did not choose to pay the rent which the landlord wanted, he simply would not get his house, and so far as future tenants were concerned the matter was simple enough; but then came the case of current leases, and what he believed to be the wish of the council, and it seemed a very proper arrangement, was to put the landlord in such a position that he might recover the same interest on his outlay from the holder of a current lease as from his prospective tenant. If he received 12 per cent. from his outlay during a lease that still had some little time to run, that was all that they need look to, the future tenants' payments, for the benefit of having water laid on, would be a matter of agreement on settling the rent he was to pay. The Advocate-General's amendment, as it seemed to him, (Mr. Eden), would have the effect of postponing the laying on of water in all houses in which the lease had less than three years to run.

MR. MONEY said that he agreed with the hon'ble member who spoke last. The expense which a landlord incurred in the introduction of water-pipes to his house would be repaid to him in one way or another by the existing and subsequent tenants. If the cost would be recouped to the landlord by the tenant, he (Mr. Money) saw no reason to depart from the section as it stood: if the cost was not to be recouped from the rent, then the natural deduction would be to make the tenant pay the *whole*, and not only half of the cost. He would therefore oppose the amendment.

The council then divided on the Advocate-General's amendment:—

AYES—5.

Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore.
" Chunder Mohun Chatterjee.
" Issur Chunder Ghosal.
Rajah Satyanund Ghosal.
The Advocate-General.

NOS—8.

Mr. Wyman.
" Robinson.
" Sutherland.
" Schalch.
" Thompson.
" Money.
The Hon'ble Ashley Eden.
The President.

The amendment was therefore negatived.

THE PRESIDENT said that it was still open to the hon'ble member who had withdrawn his amendment to propose it again. It appeared to him (the President) that the amendment, if adopted, would make the section inoperative, because under it one-half of the cost of introducing water-pipes into a house would not be recovered under $4\frac{1}{2}$ years, and no occupier would enter into an agreement to re-imburse the owner one-half of the outlay unless his lease extended to a term of five years.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said he thought that the next succeeding tenant should be required to continue to pay interest in the same manner as the first tenant: in one way or another the proprietor should be re-imbursed substantially on his outlay. He would therefore move the addition to the section of the following proviso:—

"Provided that no such notice shall be given by any tenant, unless at the time of giving such notice he may hold such house or land for a term of which not less than two years are still unexpired."

MR. SCHALCH said he was of opinion that the term should be reduced to one year. He knew one or two instances in which gas had been put on at the cost of the tenant, and the fact of gas being laid on had invariably been given by the owner as a reason for raising the rent on the expiry of the lease. Leases here barely run beyond a term of three years; so that even if a tenant had two-thirds of his lease to run, he would have to pay half the cost of introducing water: the effect of the amendment would be to retard the operation of these provisions.

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said, he thought that by reducing the term from four and half years to two, he had conceded to the tenant as much as could reasonably be expected. He must explain that under the clause the tenant would really be paying interest for only $1\frac{1}{2}$ years, as six months were allowed for the completion of the works, and the tenant was required to pay interest only from the date of the completion of the works. The difference between the amendment and the suggestion of the hon'ble member on his right (Mr. Schalch) was only six months.

MR. MONEY said it appeared to him that the cost of laying on water would be recouped to the owner in the case of the existing tenant by the interest on outlay; in the case of the succeeding tenant, by an enhancement of rent. If that were the fact, there was no reason for limiting the period of lease within which an occupier might serve notice on the owner. He (Mr. Money) submitted, that whether the lease of the present tenant were for a short or long term, did not matter a straw, if the landlord afterwards recouped himself by an enhancement of rent.

MR. SUTHERLAND said that he concurred with the hon'ble member who spoke last. He could see no advantage whatever in introducing a limit of time. The disadvantage would be that all tenants whose lease had a short term to run would be without water, while only tenants who had a long lease could have water laid on at once.

THE PRESIDENT said that he agreed with the hon'ble member on the left (Mr. Money) as to the principle on which this matter should be based. It struck him that there would be some practical inconvenience if we passed a law empowering every occupier of a house to give notice to his landlord to introduce these works. A section lower down provided that if an owner should not, within the space of two months, cause the necessary works to be completed, the occupier might do it himself, and deduct the cost from the rent paid by him. He (the President) was not sure that it would not be hard on the owner to be compelled to complete these works in large houses within the short space of two months. The amendment proposed would have the advantage of distributing the work of connecting houses with the water-mains over a longer period of time: on that ground he was disposed to concede the point involved in the present amendment.

The council then divided on Baboo Issur Chunder Ghosal's amendment:—

AYES—6.

Baboo Joteendro Mohun Tagore,
" Chunder Mohun Chatterjee.
" Issur Chunder Ghosal.
Rajah Satyanund Ghosal.
The Advocate-General.
The President.

NOES—7.

Mr. Wyman.
" Robinson.
" Sutherland.
" Schalch.
" Thompson.
" Money.
The Hon'ble Ashley Eden.

The motion was therefore negatived.

MR. SCHALCH said that one case was not provided for in the section as it now stood—viz., the case of houses situated in bye-lanes. There was a proviso in the next section excluding the operation of the section as to houses situate in streets, lanes, bye-lanes, and thoroughfares where water-pipes had not been laid by the Justices. It would be hard, in cases of that kind, that the occupier should have no right at all to have water introduced at the landlord's expense in his house. He (Mr. Schalch) thought, that if any occupier of a house in such places wanted a supply of water, he must undertake to pay the additional cost of the length of supply-pipe from the nearest main to his premises: having done that,

the supply-works, would be put on by the landlord on the same terms as governed other cases. He would therefore move the addition to the section of the following proviso:—

“Provided that in case the house or land held by such tenant shall not abut upon some street in which there is a supply main, such tenant shall, in the said agreement, undertake to pay the cost of connecting his tenement with the nearest supply main.”

MR. WYMAN said he was afraid that the proviso now proposed would have greatly the effect of delaying the introduction of the water-supply to houses. If the principle was conceded that the laying on of water is an improvement, and if the landlord received a fair equivalent in the shape of interest, he (Mr. Wyman) did not see why the landlord should not bear this expense as well as the other. It would also tend to create confusion if the tenant were required to bear one part of the expense and the landlord another. He would therefore oppose the motion.

MR. ROBINSON said that he thought there was some misapprehension as to the necessity of any such addition at all, because it would then be necessary to determine what was the work of the Justices, and what was the work of the owner and occupier respectively. The third section of the Bill provided a fund for all necessary amendments and reparations, as well as extensions of the water-supply works: surely that must mean, that if the main was required to be carried into any street, it should be carried at the expense of the Justices; and owners and occupiers could only be expected to introduce water into their premises from the mains.

MR. SCHALCH said that in laying down the water, every endeavour had been made to introduce it even in the smallest streets, and an additional expense of two lakhs of rupees had been incurred on this account. Now, by the law as it stood, water was only required to be supplied in the main and chief streets of the town; but it had been given to very many more. Still there were numbers of small bye-lanes in which it was difficult to lay down pipes. He thought, as the profits of the water-supply accrued, the Justices would be able gradually to introduce water into the smaller streets; but in the meantime the tenant should be able to obtain at once the benefits of the supply if he paid for the service-pipes required for connecting his premises with the nearest main. If it was not of sufficient importance to him to do this, he would not serve the notice on the owner: the cost to the tenant would be about 12 annas the running foot. On the other hand, if the Justices were to lay down mains in all the small lanes at once, it would be at a very considerable cost, which would have to be added to the capital, and the rate-payers would have to pay an additional sum as interest on the additional capital thus expended, and we could not retain the maximum of 5 per cent: it would certainly at least cost a lakh more; whereas, on the other hand, the mains could be gradually extended out of the margin left from the proceeds of the rate. There was no great hardship in laying down the rule that the whole of the cost of bringing the pipe from a street in which there might be a main to that in which the house was situated, should be borne by the occupier, leaving the landlord to bear the expense of the remaining pipes.

MR. ROBINSON said that he thought it was excessively desirable that there should be no sort of uncertainty in the matter. The Justices were by law required to carry the water to the principal streets and thoroughfares: he thought that an addition should be made specifying the distance from which an occupier would be bound to supply pipes for bringing water. If no distance were specified, he might be required to bring it from a mile. It was the uncertainty that he (Mr. Robinson) objected to: an addition might be made to the section to the effect that the occupier should not be required to carry the pipes through a street beyond a certain distance.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that if the early sections of the Bill were looked at, he thought it was clear what the state of things would be. The preamble and the third section speak of the water-supply works of Calcutta, which included the carrying of supply-mains, as far as was practicable, to within 150 yards of a house: then if the funds of the Justices, or the necessities of the time, should hereafter render it desirable that the supply-mains should be further extended, it could be done. If an occupier did not like to wait for that, and required a more immediate supply for his house, he (the Advocate-General) thought it was fair he should pay for the acceleration in the way proposed. He did not see any indefiniteness in the provision.

MR. SCHALCH's amendment was then carried, and the section as amended was agreed to.

MR. WYMAN moved the introduction of the following section after the above:—

“The supply to a house shall be deemed sufficient for domestic purposes if it provides the necessary works for and with a tap in each bath-room, not exceeding three in each floor of such house; one other such tap in the cook-room of or attached to such house, and one other such tap in the premises, or in or near the stables of or attached to such house. Provided that if the annual rent of such house shall be less than Rs. 300 it shall be sufficient to provide the necessary works for or with one tap only within the said premises: and provided also that this section shall not apply to huts, shops, godowns, or other places of business or trade, and also to houses or buildings situate in streets, lanes, bye-lanes, or thoroughfares where water-pipes have not been laid by the Justices. Provided further that the occupier of such house or building shall keep in repair at his own expense the works laid on by the owner for such supply of water.”

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL moved by way of amendment the substitution of "two" for "three" in line 2. He thought that two taps on each floor were as much as could be reasonably required.

MR. SCHALCH said that he would support the amendment: he believed that there were very few houses in which there were more than two bath-rooms on each floor; and if any occupier required the use of more than two taps on one floor, he could at very little cost provide another tap.

After some conversation the amendment was agreed to.

BABOO ISSER CHUNDER GHOSAL then moved the omission of the words "one other tap in the cook-room of or attached to such house, and one other tap in the premises or in or near the stables of or attached to such house;" and the substitution for them of the words "and one other such tap in the premises." He thought that one tap in a central position in the premises would be sufficient.

MR. WYMAN said that any supply which fell short of enabling an occupier to do away with the *bhistee* would fail in attaining the desired object. He thought that there could be little question that a tap was absolutely necessary in the cook-room as well as in the stables, and therefore two taps in the premises were as few as any house could do with.

The amendment was then put and negatived.

BABOO ISSER CHUNDER GHOSAL further moved that "Rs. 600" be substituted for "Rs. 300," as the minimum annual rental of houses in which more than one tap should be supplied.

After some conversation this amendment was also negatived.

On the motion of MR. SCHALCH several verbal amendments were then made in the section.

MR. MONEY said that the section provided that the works, when supplied, should be kept in repair at the expense of the occupier; but he (Mr. Money) thought that these works when once laid on by the owner really had become a portion of the house, and that therefore any repairs required to be done to them should properly fall on the owner. In some cases the necessary repairs could not be effected without breaking up a portion of the wall, and thereby interfering with the property of the owner. There was, besides, another objection. If the occupier was at his own expense to repair these works, the owner would have a claim against him for any damage done to the house or premises, which might be quite irrespective of any fault on the part of the occupier. He would therefore move as an amendment the substitution of the following proviso for the proviso at the end of the section:—

"Provided further that the owner of such house or building shall keep in repair at his own expense the works laid on by him."

BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL said that the hon'ble member had not explained how under his amendment the owner could protect himself against breakage by the improper use of the water-works. If there was any disagreement between the owner and the occupier, the occupier would have nothing else to do than to smash the pipes every day and compel the owner to incur unnecessary expense. He (BABOO ISSUR CHUNDER GHOSAL) must congratulate the hon'ble member on his having put this final stroke on the Bill.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that the hon'ble member who had just spoken forgot that if an occupier indulged, in the way the hon'ble member described, his feelings of revenge or malice, he would be liable for every time he did so to a penalty of Rs. 100. But passing that over, it was quite clear that the section as it stood would not answer. It referred not only to the occupier on whose application pipes had been laid, but might mean the occupier for the time being. There certainly would be great inconvenience in providing that the occupier should keep the works in repair; works of this kind would in their nature be fixtures, and according to the practice in Calcutta, the general repairs of a house, which would include the restoration of all fixtures in a state of tenantable repair, were borne by the owner at the end of every three years. The better course, therefore, would be simply to omit the proviso, leaving the question of liability for repairs to be determined according to special contract, or leaving the repairs of these works for the supply of water to the general law or custom as regards any other repairs; but inasmuch as it would throw on the owner in the case of business premises the expense of repairing works that could not come under the term general repairs, however fair it would be as regards any occupier other than the one on whose application the works were constructed, it would be fair that during his term of holding he should be liable to pay the expense of the repairs. He (the Advocate-General) would therefore move the omission of the last proviso in the section, and the substitution of the following:—

"Any occupier upon whose requirement as aforesaid any works for the supply of water shall have been introduced into any house or land shall during his term be bound to bear the expense of keeping such works in substantial repairs."

Therefore, after the person on whose application under the previous section water had been introduced, had ceased to be the occupier, the question of repairs would be left to special contract, or to be dealt with under the general law.

MR. WYMAN said, that the objections of the hon'ble member on his left (Mr. Money) could be easily provided for, by arranging that the repairs should be executed by the

owner, but the expense paid by the tenant. There was another reason why the provision was introduced. It was felt that if the occupier was responsible for repairs he would be more likely to see the pipes well used, and the owner would not have the trouble of sending in bills to the occupier which might be disputed.

MR. MONEY's amendment was then put and negatived.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL's amendment was carried, and the section as amended was agreed to.

MR. WYMAN moved the introduction of the following section after the above:—

“In case any owner shall not within the space of two months from the service of such notice cause such necessary works as aforesaid to be completed, it shall be lawful for the tenant who shall have given such notice to cause such necessary works to be completed, and to deduct from the rent payable by him the cost of such works by equal instalments extending over a period of not less than six months.”

The section was agreed to with a slight amendment.

MR. WYMAN moved the introduction of the following section after the above:—

“No works for introducing a supply of water into any house or land shall be commenced by the owner without sending an estimate of the cost thereof to the tenant, nor by the tenant without sending such estimate to the owner.”

This section was also agreed to with slight amendments.

MR. WYMAN then moved the introduction of the following section:—

“In case there shall be any difference between the owner and the tenant respecting the cost or the sufficiency of the works, it shall be lawful for such owner or such tenant to refer such difference to the Justices, and the written award of the engineer of the Justices, or of any officer authorized by the Justices in that behalf, shall be binding on the owner and the tenant.”

The section was agreed to with a verbal amendment.

MR. WYMAN then moved the introduction of the following section:—

“There shall be payable to the Justices in respect of every such reference the sum of Rs. 2 for every hundred rupees of the monthly rent of the house in respect of the water-supply to which the difference may have arisen: provided that such fee shall in no case exceed Rs. 10; and such fee shall be paid by the person making such reference. All such works as aforesaid shall be constructed subject to the inspection and to the satisfaction of the engineer of the Justices, or of some other officer appointed by the Justices in that behalf; and for the purposes of such inspection it shall be lawful for the said engineer or other officer to enter the house or land at all reasonable times or until the completion of such works.”

This section was agreed to with a verbal amendment and the omission of the second clause.

MR. WYMAN then moved the introduction of the following section:—

“It shall be lawful for any owner who shall have completed such works to recover from the person who shall have given such notice any sum which such person had undertaken to pay, as if the same were rent payable for the house in respect to which such notice shall have been given.”

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL moved that the proviso at the end of Section 14B., which had been introduced on his motion be expunged, and inserted as a new section after Section XLV, and to stand as follows:—

“Any occupier upon or after whose requirement as aforesaid any works for the supply of water shall have been introduced into any house or land, shall during his term be bound to bear the expense of keeping such works in substantial repairs.”

In Section 15 the Advocate-General moved the inclusion of Act VI. of 1866 (B. C.) amongst the Acts with which the Bill should be incorporated.

The motion was agreed to.

Section 16 was agreed to.

Section 17 was on the motion of the Advocate-General omitted as being unnecessary.

On the motion of Mr. Schalch, a verbal amendment was made in Section 18.

Section I, and the schedule, preamble, and title were agreed to.

The council was adjourned to Saturday, the 19th instant.

Extension of subordinate medical agency in the Lower Provinces.

Memorandum from E. C. Bayley, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 951, dated Fort William, the 20th February 1869.)

Ordered, that a copy of this resolution, with a copy of the connected papers, be forwarded to the Government of Bengal, for information and guidance.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public), under date the 20th February 1869.

READ again the undermentioned papers on the subject of the supply of English medicines to charitable dispensaries:—

From Military department, No. 148, dated 8th October 1868.

To Military department, No. 4270, dated 26th October 1868.

To inspector-general of hospitals, lower provinces, No. 4271, dated 26th October 1868.

Read also letter from the Inspector-general of hospitals, lower provinces, No. 702, dated 16th November.

RESOLUTION.

IN October last certain papers were received regarding a proposal made by the Government of the North-Western Provinces that charitable dispensaries should be permitted to purchase, at cost price, from Government medical stores, any quantity of English medicines that they might require, over and above the sanctioned scale.

2. Under the system introduced into the North-Western Provinces in 1864, and since extended to the Punjab, Oude, Central Provinces, and partially to British Burmah, charitable dispensaries are local institutions, receiving grants-in-aid from Government, equal in amount to the salaries of the officers attached to them, other charges being, as a rule, borne by local funds. The only exception to the grant-in-aid principle was the free supply of European medicines from the Government stores, according to the estimated requirements of each dispensary.

3. The present appears a good opportunity to bring dispensaries strictly under the grant-in-aid principle, by doing away with the exception abovementioned, and discontinuing the free supply of English medicines,—the loss which would thereby be entailed on those institutions being compensated by the permission to indent for and purchase from Government stores any quantity of English medicines required, which the funds can afford, at prices fixed so as barely to protect Government from loss. The fact that the drugs have to be paid for will thus be the best check upon the local indents.

4. The inspector-general, Indian medical department, lower provinces, however, objects to the proposal to withdraw the indulgence enjoyed by the charitable dispensaries of indenting upon the Government stores for certain specified quantities of English medicines. He seems to think that great embarrassment will be felt by many of the existing dispensaries, and that their operations will be curtailed in proportion to the amount that may be spent on English medicines. The present system of free supply of such medicines serves, in his opinion, as a great inducement to the community to come forward and contribute towards the establishment of dispensaries; and the withdrawal of the indulgence will, he thinks, retard the spread and multiplication of these useful institutions. For these reasons he would continue the present system of annual grants of English medicines, and, as originally proposed by the Government of the North-Western Provinces, would permit dispensaries to purchase, *in addition*, from Government stores, such medicines as the funds allowed.

5. But Dr. Green admits that many dispensaries have large incomes from endowments in the shape of money invested in the funds, assignments of land, &c., and that some have considerable balances in hand. There is no good reason why such institutions should not pay for their English medicines as they now do for country drugs and other incidental charges, depending on Government only for the salary of the establishments. In fact, the strict application of the grant-in-aid principle will encourage that spirit of reliance upon local exertions which it is so desirable to foster.

6. Other dispensaries are perhaps not prepared, at present, for the change, and would be much inconvenienced by the discontinuance of the gratuitous supply of English medicines; and as the application of the scheme now proposed to the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab has already been sanctioned by the orders of the Military department, No. 314, dated the 8th ultimo, such dispensaries in these provinces may be temporarily exempted from the operation of the present ruling.

7. Local Governments and administrations will be called upon to ascertain the true position of each dispensary, and to prepare and submit a classified list, distinguishing (1) those institutions which can at once pay for their English medicines, and (2) those which require time to prepare for the change.

ORDERED, that a copy of this resolution, with a copy of the connected papers, be forwarded to the Governments of North-Western Provinces and Punjab; the chief commissioners of Oude, Central Provinces, and British Burmah; the resident at Hyderabad, and the commissioner of Coorg, for information and guidance.

Ordered also, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the inspector-general of hospitals, Indian medical service, lower provinces, for information.

Ordered further, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Military and Financial departments for information.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 1203, dated Fort William, the 19th July 1869.)

IN the resolution of the Home department, forwarded to this office with your endorsement No. 951, dated the 20th February 1869, this Government was requested to ascertain the true position of each dispensary in the lower provinces, and to prepare and submit a classified list, distinguishing (1) those institutions which can at once pay for their English medicines, and (2) those which require time to prepare for the change.

2. On receipt of this communication divisional commissioners were addressed, and a

- * From commissioner of Chota Nagpore, No. 835, dated 30th March 1869.
- " officiating commissioner of Assam, No. 117, dated 17th April 1869.
- " " of Dacca, No. 219, dated 4th May 1869.
- " commissioner of Bhaugulpore, No. 138, dated 5th idem.
- " officiating Commissioner of the Orissa Division, No. 77, dated 6th idem.
- " " " of Chittagong, No. 63, dated 17th idem.
- " " " of Burdwan, No. 132, dated 25th idem.
- " " " of the Presidency division, No. 160, dated 27th idem.

From commissioner of Cooch Behar Division, No. 1507, dated the same day.

" officiating commissioner of Rajshahye, No. 255, dated 4th June.

" " " of Patna, No. 202, dated 17th idem.

copy of their replies* is submitted herewith, for information, together with a copy of an abstract prepared in this office, giving the particulars required by the Government of India. It will be seen that 44 out of 128 dispensaries are in a position to pay for European medicines at once.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the views of the commissioners in classifying the dispensaries, in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India, but before taking any steps towards enforcing payment for medicines, His Honor desires to urge that there are strong reasons against pressing for a change of practice in respect of existing dispensaries, which were established by private subscriptions, invited by Government by the publication

Vide Home department No. 1232, dated 17th November 1854.

would be given. These rules were approved by the Government of India in 1854, and under them a gratuitous supply of European medicines was promised, on the condition of a certain subscription being collected, and no doubt this privilege has led to the establishment of the greater number of these dispensaries. Practically these dispensaries were established on a system of grants-in-aid, the Government contribution taking the form of a gratuitous supply of medicines, and the services of a medical officer. To withdraw either of these concessions now would, as pointed out in the communication from the officiating commissioner of the Presidency division, have the appearance of a breach of faith with the subscribers. Under these circumstances, therefore, the Lieutenant-Governor will await further instructions from the Government of India before carrying out any change in the existing practice.

4. In regard to future cases the rules can be altered so as to make the supply of medicines out of the dispensary funds an essential condition under which aid will be given by Government, should the Government of India determine that this should be done, but the Lieutenant-Governor is not in favor even of a prospective withdrawal of the supply of medicines gratuitously. Having regard to the lamentable state of public health in every part of the lower provinces of late years, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that every reasonable inducement should be held out to the people to establish dispensaries under the existing rules.

From D. B. SMITH, Esq., M.D., Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, to A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(dated Darjeeling, the 5th June 1869.)

WITH reference to letter No. 692 of 16th February 1869, from the officiating under-secretary to the Government of Bengal, forwarding Letter No. 2, dated 19th January 1869, from civil surgeon of Furreedpore. copy of the papers noted in the margin, the one containing a scheme by the civil surgeon of Furreedpore Letter No. 183, dated 18th January 1869, and enclosures, from Punjab Government. for raising a body of local native doctors for the general medical relief of the country; and the other, a report, furnished by the Government of

the Punjab, on the working of the scheme for the medical relief of the district of Sealkote, I have the honor now to report as follows, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

2. Dr. Bholanauth Bose's scheme consists of the following propositions—

(a.) To raise one hundred "indigenous doctors" in each district; the candidates to be "young men of good character and respectable parentage, and thoroughly versed in their own vernacular."

(b.) To establish a temporary medical school in each district, with a hospital attached to it.

(c.) To entertain an establishment at each school, consisting of—

1 sub-assistant surgeon on Rs. 150 per mensem,				
1 native doctor	"	"	25	"
1 writer	"	"	25	"
8 ordinary servants	"	"	50	"

with one superintendent over all, for twelve districts, on a salary of Rs. 1,200 a month.

(d.) To grant stipends to all the students during the course of their education, and to supply them *gratis* with books and other aid.

(e.) To educate them for one year, and at the end of that time to subject them to a test examination on practical subjects, and, when they pass, to grant them certificates or licenses to practise.

3. Dr. Bose is of opinion that the task of organizing and carrying out such a system, for the general medical relief of the country, "is not a difficult one at all." He adds—

"It must be remembered that the most common and raging diseases of India from which the greatest number suffers and the largest mortality arises, especially among the indigent classes, are only a few, such as one could almost count on his fingers. These are the various forms of fever, principally of a malarious type, diarrhoea, dysentery and cholera, and their *sequela* and a few simple cutaneous disorders, and abscesses and ulcers; and that to combat these, we have a magnificent indigenous *materia medica*, vastly superior to that of any other country in the world, and which is confessedly, with a few exceptions, more than equal to all our local wants."

4. Special text-books would be necessary. On this point Dr. Bose writes:—"I could myself undertake the preparation of such books, and venture to complete them in six months, with the aid probably of an assistant."

5. Of the nature of the education to be imparted, Dr. Bose writes as follows:—"A thorough practical knowledge of the indigenous drugs would be insisted on, with the plants bhaunt and indrojaub at their head; bhaunt as a general cure for all febrile ailments, and indrojaub for that of diarrhoea, dysentery, and cholera."

6. The total cost of the schools and hospitals would, according to Dr. Bose, be roughly Rs. 1,000 a month for each district. This cost would, in the first instance, he proposes, be met by the state, and afterwards recovered by donations and monthly contributions from the public; by a small cess on zemindars; and by a similar cess on villages. Dr. Bose states that "this will be altogether a voluntary contribution;" and that it might be supplemented "by a small license fee from all the young doctors throughout the district."

7. So soon as the students were pronounced qualified to practise, they would be distributed to one hundred different centres or principal villages in the district where their education had been accomplished.

8. Dr. Bose suggests that "a graduated scale of fees might be fixed, varying from half an anna to a rupee, according to the circumstances of the people."

9. Lastly, he writes—

"15. To encourage this important class of trained district medical men, and utilize their services as much as possible on the part of the state, they may be employed for the following purposes in their own villages and within the limits of their several beats:—

1. As pound-keepers.
2. Superintendents of chowkeydars.
3. Vaccinators.
4. Local sanitary officers.
5. Local statistical officers generally.

For all these appointments a small fixed pay monthly will suffice."

10. *Remarks.*—I regret that I cannot think at all well of Dr. Bholanauth Bose's scheme. Even allowing that it could be carried out (which appears very doubtful), I do not think it would, by any means, meet the real medical wants of the people. To expect a youth, after a year's tuition from a sub-assistant surgeon and a native doctor on the subject of indigenous drugs, to treat successfully the ordinary maladies of Bengal, appears to me unreasonable and visionary. There is scarcely a sick village throughout the length and breadth of the country that is not suffering from complicated disease, such as might sorely tax the intelligence and skill of the most experienced and trained physician. It is by no means an easy task to cure those who are living in the midst of conditions which originate all the most fatal maladies that flesh is heir to. Fever, dysentery, and cholera but too often baffle the most advanced science of the day. Dr. Bose seems to think that they would all yield before the virtues of a few indigenous drugs prescribed by striplings possessed of just such a general knowledge

of theory as would be absolutely necessary to a proper comprehension of the several subjects that may be specially taught. I fear "Leviathan is not so tame."

Any persons duly authorized by the state to practise medicine ought to be well educated and trained under the most favorable auspices. Extended experience has taught us that young men systematically instructed for three years, by carefully selected teachers at our medical schools, are by no means so efficient as could be desired, that they often sadly fail in practice from ignorance and want of confidence. This appears decisively to prove the fact that a more prolonged, more careful, and more extended training is necessary; and that young men indoctrinated for the period of a year, on the virtues of indigenous products, at a ~~sofusil~~ temporary hospital, by a sub-assistant-surgeon and a native doctor, are by no means likely to be very successful practitioners.

11. The stipendiary system of medical education has many disadvantages and leads in a wrong direction. When native students come forward (as they are now doing in greater numbers than before at the Calcutta medical college) to pay for instruction in the science and art of medicine, we may be sure that they are in earnest; it is this spirit that should be encouraged, not the reverse of it.

12. I am altogether and strongly opposed to the bestowal of certificates or medical licenses to practise on individuals who have enjoyed only a short and insufficient education. Dr. Bose's text examination would necessarily require to be one possessing very limited qualifications in science.

13. It appears to me impossible that really useful special text-books in the vernacular could be prepared in anything like the time (six months) laid down by Dr. Bose.

14. The cost of Rs. 1,000 a month may not represent a very large state expenditure, when the object supposed to be attained is the general medical relief of the people of an entire district; but the whole question, it must be remarked, hinges on a supposition; and I do not myself think that men trained, as proposed by Dr. Bose, would ever make reliable doctors. There is the further disadvantage in such a system, that if it be taken up and prove unsuccessful, it will bring direct discredit on an educational scheme, originated and controlled by the Government; besides retarding the much-needed improvement of other and, to my mind, better systems already in operation.

15. With regard to the proposed cess, Dr. Bose declares this will be an entirely voluntary contribution on the part of zemindars and villagers. Is there no chance, however, of the people and the landholders resenting such a proposition? I think it highly improbable that Bengalees would voluntarily tax themselves for such a purpose, whether poor or rich, educated or uneducated; nor would young village doctors, starting in life, be likely to regard with favor the exaction of license fees, however small.

16. I further disapprove of the proposal that Government should lay down a graduated scale of fees. Dr. Bose has said that the young practitioners would be virtually independent men. Government, therefore, would have no more power to regulate their demands than it has in the case of barristers' fees, tradesmen's charges, or other private enterprises.

17. The crowning weakness of Dr. Bose's scheme is embodied in the last *paragraph* of his letter, wherein he suggests that, for the encouragement of "this important class of trained district medical men," they should be employed as pound-keepers, superintendents of chowkidars, vaccinators, and local statistical and sanitary officers!

The combination of heterogenous ideas here presented renders criticism difficult, perhaps almost unnecessary. I refrain from writing all that I feel on such a point, and I can only express surprize that Dr. Bose should desire to see the young medical *protégés* of the state converted into tax-collectors and policemen.

18. On the whole, I cannot but regard Dr. Bose's scheme as a very objectionable one in almost every particular; and yet the fact is an indubitable one that extended medical relief is urgently required in the Bengal districts.

19. The native doctors on the Government establishment are too few in number and not sufficiently well-informed. In my opinion further inducements than at present obtain should be held out for a larger number of men to present themselves, and when qualified they should be more highly paid than they now are.

20. I would further suggest that, if the Government could have the necessary arrangements carried out, it would be a great boon to the sick in Bengal villages if they could obtain really good English medicines at a reasonable cost. It is true that at present medicines can be had *gratis* at Government dispensaries, and that in this respect the state is most liberal. But dispensaries are scattered over the country at very considerable distances from each other, and the Bengali, when weak and ill, is unable to leave his home, and even if he be able to move about, he is disinclined to go (more than once perhaps) to a distance for medicine. Were remedies available in his village, I have reason to think that he would be glad to pay for the same as far as he can afford to do so. Under existing circumstances, when a villager himself, or a member of his family, is weakened by fever in a malarious district, it is customary for him to purchase *what is called* quinine from some village apothecary who deals in medicines, which he sends for to Calcutta. In many instances I have examined and tasted the so-called quinine mixture of the Bengal villages, and have often found it to be an altogether spurious and useless remedy; and yet for a small quantity of this and similar prepara-

tions, it is common for a villager to give two or three rupees at a time;—the consequence being that the poor man remains uncured, whilst at the same time he is being beggared. If for the amount which he pays he could obtain well prepared and genuine medicines, the chances are that his ailments would, for the time at least, be relieved, and he would have the value of his money. I have been told by hundreds of villagers that they would gladly pay for what would cure them. I think it is therefore a question well worthy of the consideration of the Government whether a system could be inaugurated, whereby good English medicines might be rendered available to the people at something like English cost prices, and this more particularly in the so-called fever tracts. Were even a few useful remedies, such as quinine, James' powder and Dover's powder brought within easy reach of the people in their village homes, the effects would, I think, be most beneficial. A small medical store might be made over to some trustworthy agent, to whom the inhabitants of a few surrounding villages might repair when necessary. Zamindars would, I dare say, in many instances, consent to appoint their own reliable agents for the sale of Government medicines, who would be held accountable for a refund of the value of stores received. The accounts of small district Government laboratories might also, I think, be supervised at times by the head masters of village schools. These men, as a rule, take an interest in the physical welfare of the people; they are an intelligent class; and in many instances I believe they would be willing to undertake such a duty as is here referred to.

21. With regard to general indigenous medical education, I very much doubt if our native doctors, or even our sub-assistant surgeons, as a rule, know much about the virtues of indigenous products. The greatest amount of information on this point is probably in the hands of a few learned and well-read kobirajes, such men I mean as practise in Calcutta, and who so far gain the confidence of their well-educated countrymen as to command perfect respect as members of society, and who realize large incomes by their practice. There are a few such men in Calcutta, and I would presume to suggest that it might lead to useful results were two or three carefully selected and leading kobirajes allowed by the Government a small hospital, in which they would have an opportunity of treating medical cases according to their own system. It is a very commonly expressed opinion amongst native gentlemen, that cases of chronic disease in India are more successfully treated by kobirajes than by English physicians. If it be so, English medicine has much to learn; and such knowledge is worthy of being sought for with deep anxiety. If by the establishment of a special native hospital, any useful information regarding indigenous drugs could be acquired which we do not now possess, the Government would act wisely in affording to the most distinguished kobirajes the opportunity of imparting what they know. The tenets to which they adhere, and the doctrines which they inculcate, are based upon the traditions and experience of many past ages, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that in the midst of much that is commonplace, facts of value may yet remain in Indian systems of medicine for European physicians to become familiar with.

Were two or three of the best known kobirajes in Calcutta to be patronized by the Government, they would doubtless expect to have an independent and honorable public position, with a salary attaching to it. They might teach the "native class" medical students of the Calcutta medical college such parts of their system as they believe to be preferable to all others; and at the same time English medical men at the Presidency would have a good opportunity of judging of the results of such a special line of practice. It is possible that in this way a certain amount of knowledge, useful to humanity, might be communicated and perpetuated, which would otherwise be apt to be lost on the death of those who still survive as the champions of a time-honored but now almost obsolete system. The ordinary village kobiraje will, as a rule, be found to be an ignorant individual and a mere pretender; but in Calcutta there are superior representative men, intellectual, well-read, and thoughtful, whose practice is or should be a matter of interest to all, and whose success is declared by their countrymen to be great. Who can say that English medicine has nothing to learn from such men?

It is through the medium of these practitioners that any efforts at so-called "indigenous medical education" should, in my opinion, be made. At the same time any such scheme as that now alluded to should not be allowed, in the slightest degree, to impede the progress of regular medical education at the Calcutta college.

I have no doubt that were the sanction of Government accorded to a fair public trial of the value of purely native practice, that a large number of well-educated native gentlemen in Calcutta and elsewhere would be highly gratified. Such a proceeding could prove to them and to the world that the Government of this country is ready and anxious to rescue from oblivion all knowledge which may possibly prove conducive to the interests of the people of India.

22. Whilst I have felt obliged to oppose Dr. Bholanauth Bose's scheme in the form in which he has brought it forward, it appears to me that, by a somewhat similar system as that which he proposes, it might be possible to originate small district medical schools in which youths might be taught purely elementary knowledge as a preliminary to regular professional education. At present native students, on first arriving at our medical schools, are very deficient in general elementary information;—the consequence being that in college their

teachers have, as far as possible, to build up that foundation of knowledge which ought to have been previously laid at a preliminary school. If such institutions could be inaugurated at sunder stations, under the auspices of civil surgeons, sub-assistant surgeons, and native doctors, I think the benefits would be recognized, not only when youths came to matriculate at college, but also when they went forth to the world as men LICENSED TO PRACTISE.

23. With regard to Major Mercer's scheme for medical relief in the Sealkote district, I beg to offer the following remarks:—

The general object of Major Mercer's scheme is very good. It is thus defined in paragraph 8 of letter No. 29, dated Sealkote, 8th January 1869:—"I had in view the extension of our present dispensary system, the employment of hakeems in public pay, subordinate to the native doctors trained under the English system; the gradual substitution of English medicines for useless native drugs; the attendance of the sick of all classes to afford prompt medical relief; and, ultimately, the subversion of the system of medicine as practised by the natives."

24. The "hakeem fund" so called is doubtless a very useful one. But the question presents itself. Is it in reality a purely voluntary contribution, or may it not fairly be regarded as a medical tax, applicable to the building of dispensaries, the purchasing of medicines, the educating of youths at college, &c., &c.?

25. It would be well if such a medical tax could be levied in Bengal; but it is very questionable if anything of the sort would here, in Bengal, "meet with universal approbation," as is reported of it in the Punjab.

26. The village kobirajes of Bengal do not present such promising material as the hakeems of the Punjab. The latter, Major Mercer, in his letter No. 397, dated 5th November 1867, paragraph 24, characterizes as a class of men drawn out of obscurity, "who notwithstanding their ignorance or crude notions are well fitted to form a fraternity, from whence may spring, eventually, a well-educated medical profession." I think those who know most of the Bengalee village kobirajes will be very slow to allow that so favorable a view can be taken of their merits. They are, as a rule, ignorant, bigotted, stupid, lazy, and unpromising, and vastly inferior to the Mahomedan material with which Major Mercer has to deal. In my opinion they could never usefully be employed as indicated in paragraph 30 of Major Mercer's letter No. 29, dated 8th January.

27. In paragraph 17 of his letter No. 397 of 5th November 1867, Major Mercer states that a single hakeem has, under his care, a circle containing, on an average, forty-four villages. I should be sorry to entrust a single village to the care of a Bengalee koberaje or boido, even after he had been schooled to the utmost by a hakeem alah.

28. With reference to paragraph 12 of Major Mercer's letter No. 29, it appears to me that far too much is made of the native doctor. He is really not fit for the duties of teacher, consulting physician, supervisor of health returns, and general reporter on the professional qualifications of others.

29. Similar remarks seem to apply to paragraph 14. It is impossible that the sub-assistant surgeon can perform effectively all that is laid down in this part of Major Mercer's letter. It is vain to hope that, besides performing his regular duties, a sub-assistant surgeon cannot only deliver a course of lectures, but "visit any part of his district affected by epidemic disease," control branch dispensaries, act the part of a medical store-keeper, compile all returns from *tuhseels*, and prepare district reports. He has quite enough to do with his regular dispensary duties. The more his attention is diverted to other matters, the more, of necessity, must he neglect these.

30. I quite agree with Major Mercer that there exists a great want of native doctors. This is daily apparent in Bengal. The Government would do well specially to consider this matter, being guided by the opinions and advice of the head of the medical department, and of the principal and professors of the Calcutta medical college.

31. The educational part of Major Mercer's scheme, as laid down in paragraphs 24, 25, 26, 27, is excellent, and in my opinion beyond all adverse criticism.

32. Paragraph 38 of Major Mercer's letter treats of his scheme thus:—"It would probably have to be introduced in Bengal in an altered form, where the organization of village communities and the system of revenue collection is entirely different; but when once the question of raising the funds is decided, the same general principles could be acted upon, *viz.*, that of making the best possible use of the machinery at hand, and improving it by the gradual introduction of educated native doctors and English medicines."

There is no doubt that the first point to be determined in any scheme whatever of this sort is the manner in which funds are to be raised. I have already expressed the opinion that Bengalis would resent a special medical tax, but in this respect I may possibly be mistaken. In my letter to the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated Barrackpore, the 11th May 1868, I suggested the advisability of Government submitting this question to the commissioners of divisions throughout Bengal.

With regard to "making the best use of the machinery at hand and improving it by the gradual introduction of educated native doctors and English medicines" in Bengal, it appears quite unnecessary to consider the "gradual introduction of native doctors, inasmuch as in most of the districts this class of individuals is now well known to the people, and trusted

much more than the kobirajes." Again, with regard to English medicines, the people of Bengal, instead of being prejudiced against them, very generally acknowledge their virtues. A very marked change in this respect has occurred within the last few years.

33. At paragraph 39 Major Mercer takes exception to my views as expressed in my letter dated 11th May 1868.

He is of opinion that "sudden innovations are carefully to be avoided, as disturbing the public mind and retarding social progress." In reply, I would observe, that the sending forth of native doctors, educated under Government aspices, can scarcely be regarded in the light of a sudden innovation in Bengal, inasmuch as, for the last thirty-six years, men carefully taught at the Calcutta medical college have been dispersed amongst the people throughout all parts of India, from the seaboard to the extremest limits of the empire.

34. The weak points of his scheme, pointed out by Major Mercer himself in paragraph 41 of his letter, will be FOUND TO HAVE DOUBLE FORCE IN BENGAL.

35. I have above indicated what I take to be the parts of Major Mercer's scheme most open to criticism. Founded as it has been, and worked as it is, there can be little doubt that it reflects vast credit on its originator, and I should think it must be a great boon to the people of the Punjab, yet withal I do not think it applicable to Bengal; and it is very questionable if it could by any means be modified so as to suit these lower provinces.

The Calcutta medical college element is that which I would fain see made use of to the entire exclusion of village empiricists. The people of Bengal, regarded broadly, have lost almost all faith in so-called indigenous practitioners, having learnt from dire experience that they are pretentious deceivers, and, to the last degree, unskilful doctors.

36. In conclusion I would adduce the following as a short summary of my general opinion on the subject of this letter:—

(a.) Major Mercer's scheme, greatly as it reflects honor on Major Mercer himself, and applicable as it may be in the Punjab, is unsuitable to Bengal.

(b.) Dr. Bholanauth Bose's scheme, evolved, as it seems to have been, from a deep and most praiseworthy desire to benefit the helpless and pitiable sections of the population of Bengal, is yet neither practicable nor, to my mind, sound in principle.

(c.) I recommend the extension, in every possible way, of regular college medical education, and the more perfect training of native doctors, on the system now in force at the medical college of Calcutta. This system has its acknowledged imperfections, and it is these that should be looked to.

(d.) District preliminary medical schools would be very useful, if they could be organized on some systematic principle; but these, instead of interfering with, would require to be regarded as merely a preparation for sound and extended college education.

(e.) It would be a great boon to the village population of Bengal if good European medicines were obtainable in the district, at something like English cost price.

(f.) The best method of rescuing from oblivion such portions of Indian systems of medicine as are practised in Bengal, and which may contain matter worthy of the study of English physicians, appears to me to be the recognition by the Government of two or three learned and leading kobirajes at the Presidency, who, if they had a special public hospital of their own, would, by the results of their practice, display the actual value of their principles, and so afford an opportunity for all interested in such matters to read clearly, from the pages of what is now all but a closed book, truths which might be found to be of lasting benefit to humanity.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Political Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—
(No. 1338, dated Fort William, the 28th July 1869.)

THE necessity of providing a more extensive subordinate medical agency in the interior than that which now exists in the system of local charitable dispensaries has already been brought incidentally under the notice of the Governor General in Council by the sanitary commissioner with the Government of India in his proceedings for March and April 1867.

Since that period the subject has, on several occasions, been brought prominently under notice in the lower provinces, and has continued to receive the attention of this Government. The subject is one to which special importance is attached in years like the present, when epidemic cholera and small-pox have been prevailing extensively from one end of Bengal to the other, and when the regular agency at the disposal of Government has proved altogether inadequate to meet the calls that have of necessity been made upon it.

2. It is universally asserted, and the Lieutenant-Governor believes upon good grounds, that from some cause or other of late years, and especially in the districts around Calcutta, there has been a very great deterioration in the public health, and the lamentable state into which some parts of this country have undoubtedly been reduced by fever will be apparent

* Dated 25th March 1869. from the accompanying extracts from a report* on the district of Hooghly by the sanitary commissioner of the local Government. An effort is now being made by special measures to mitigate the severity of the scourge which has fallen on this part of the country; but there is too much reason to believe that

there is annually a fearful loss of life throughout the whole of these provinces from epidemic visitations, which might be greatly reduced by the most ordinary medical aid. The best results have followed the free distribution of pills in some of the districts lately visited by cholera, and no doubt in treating fevers, small-pox, &c., much good might be done by the distribution of a few simple medicines and by advice. The difficulty, however, is to find sufficient trustworthy agency for this purpose. After an epidemic has broken out, and in some cases not before it has already done an enormous amount of mischief, an application is made for medical aid. All that Government can do is to despatch one or two native doctors to the afflicted district. No doubt these do much good among those with whom they come in contact, but in a large district they really can produce no appreciable effect.

3. The question has consequently arisen, whether it is possible to raise up a body of local medical practitioners, who shall possess a sufficient practical knowledge to enable them to afford material service in cases of this sort, and who shall be so cheaply educated as to bring their services within reach of the poorer classes and in remote parts of the interior. Attention was naturally directed, in the first place, towards an improvement of the native kobirajes and hakeems, and in this view the late officiating commissioner of Nuddea pressed upon the notice of Government the scheme introduced by Major Mercer into the district of

Sealkote, and the working of which is described in the sanitary commissioner's report for March and April 1867, as well as in one of the enclosures* of this letter. This scheme is briefly one for the introduction of village dispensaries, managed by elected native hakeems under the supervision of a head

hakeem, and it depends upon the existence of a local cess from which it derives its funds.

4. Another scheme which has been suggested is that of Dr. Bholanauth Bose, which is fully described in his letter of the 19th January 1869. It contemplates the establishment of a district medical school, with a hospital attached in every district, and the training of a hundred indigenous doctors in each school, who shall receive stipends while under education, and then return to their villages as private practitioners. The cost of the scheme would be Rs. 12,000 for each district, and this cost it is proposed to meet by subscriptions, by a cess, and by license fees.

5. On both of these schemes Dr. D. B. Smith, the sanitary commissioner for Bengal, was desired to report. The general conclusion arrived at by Dr. Smith is unfavorable to both proposals. He submits at the same time certain suggestions of his own, which have for their object the establishment of district medical schools as preliminary to regular college education, the provision of English standard drugs to village centres at cost price, and the encouragement of the native system of medicine in the persons of its leading practitioners in Calcutta.

6. The Lieutenant-Governor, having carefully considered the various proposals which have been laid before him, has come to the conclusion that neither Major Mercer's, nor Dr. Bose's, nor Dr. Smith's suggestions can be carried out in their entirety in Bengal, though no doubt each of them contains some good principles. The Lieutenant-Governor is disposed to think that some real good might be done by establishing medical classes of an elementary kind at the colleges of Patna and Dacca, the fees being fixed at a moderate rate. He thinks also that in certain districts the civil surgeon might receive, at the sunder dispensary or hospital, a few apprentices who could acquire under his tuition a practical knowledge of the first principles of medicine and the properties of common drugs. Such apprentices might receive subsistence allowance from Government at, say, Rs. 5 the first year, Rs. 8 in the second year, and Rs. 10 in the third year of their time. They should, during this period, be employed as dressers, hospital apprentices, and compounders in the civil and jail hospital and the dispensary. Such a body of apprentices would, even during their apprenticeship, be of great service in times of epidemic disease, when it is an object to secure a distributing agency for a few simple remedies, and a medium of communication with the villages that shall not be open to suspicion, as in the case of the police. At the end of their third year, if they were found to be duly qualified, they might receive a license for local practice, and would no doubt earn a livelihood in their villages by their profession. The Lieutenant-Governor would limit the number of apprentices in any one district to five.

7. The inspector-general of hospitals will be consulted as to the practicability of this proposal, and further communication will be made to the Government of India hereafter. If the inspector-general of hospitals is of opinion that it offers any promise of success, it might be experimentally introduced into a few selected districts.

8. In the meantime the Lieutenant-Governor begs to recommend, for the favorable consideration of the Governor General in Council, Dr. Smith's proposal for the sale in the interior of certain European medicines, such as quinine, James' powder, Dover's powder, at cost price. This proposal, in a modified form, seems worthy of adoption.

9. The only way by which this could be effected would be by sending a certain stock of medicines for sale by the medical officer of the district and his subordinates. Zemindars and others might also be employed in disposing of the drugs, if they offer their services through the district medical officer, and if he recommends that their offer be accepted.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks it would be a great boon to the people, especially in those tracts which have suffered so seriously in the few last years from fever, to be able to obtain quinine pure and at a reasonable price, the selling price being fixed so as barely to cover the cost to Government.

11. The Lieutenant-Governor has no hope that any thing could be made of the native kobirajes of Bengal. He thinks that the only good that is to be got out of the native system of medicine will be attained by the trained experience of European medical men being brought to bear more carefully upon the study of native drugs and remedies.

No. 1339.

COPY of the above letter, and of its enclosures, forwarded to the inspector-general of hospitals, Bengal medical department, with the request that he will be good enough to submit the report referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7.

From J. MURRAY, Esq., M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, — (No. 466, dated Fort William, the 9th August 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your office docket No. 1339 of the 28th ultimo, and in answer to paragraphs 6 and 7, beg to submit, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the following observations.

2. I most fully concur with His Honor in paragraph 2 on the benefit to be conferred on the people of the country by the extended employment of the most ordinary medical aid, and in the necessity of increasing the present supply, and also in his consideration of the plans proposed by Major Mercer and Drs. Bholanauth Bose and Smith. The former has been tried under my own charge and failed, and the latter is a waste of time that could be more profitably employed at college.

3. From the imperfectly educated youth now trained, it is found that a large staff of the most talented teachers can with difficulty turn out efficient native doctors; they require active European supervision for years to make them really efficient and trustworthy for independent charges. The local school suggested by Dr. Bholanauth Bose could not command such efficient training establishments, and could not be expected to turn out men fit to be trusted with the independent power of exhibiting powerful poisons to an ignorant people. In no science is it so true that "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing" than in medicine.

4. The plan proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor of having apprentices at the local dispensaries for three years, drawing respectively Rs. 5, 8, and 10 a month, or Rs. 250 in all, is more expensive than that of the Calcutta, Agra, and Lahore schools, where the pay is Rs. 6 per month, or Rs. 216. In these schools there is an efficient staff of teachers who produce the present style of native doctor, which a single teacher could not be expected to equal even if he had the leisure of the old civil surgeons. Now while his time is fully occupied by the ministerial and manufacturing works of the jails, he would not have time to teach the apprentices, so that after three years they would not be more educated than compounders and dressers, many of whom, I am sorry to say, are now employed in independent charge of dispensaries without efficient control.

5. I consider that the establishment of dispensaries all over the country as of the utmost importance, diffusing the benefit of health, relieving pain, and saving life; but these benefits can only be conferred by the employment of men who know what they are doing, or are able to carry out the instructions of others who do; but even in this last instance some knowledge is required in the agents, as diseases vary in each individual case, and cannot be mechanically prescribed for.

6. The style of men produced by the plan of the Lieutenant-Governor would be lower in intelligence than that proposed by any of the other plans, and cost more than the college training at Agra and Lahore, or Calcutta; in which institutions any number required could easily be supplied on due intimation being previously given. They might be useful in distributing special medicines during epidemic in the districts, but they would never thrive in their own village on the practice of medicine.

From the HON'BLE A. EPEN, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Judicial and Political Departments, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, — (No. 1683, dated Fort William, the 1st September 1869.)

In forwarding the report of the inspector-general of hospitals, Indian medical department, marginally cited, which, in paragraph 7 of my letter No. 466 of the 9th August 1869.

No. 1338 of the 28th July 1869, was proposed to be placed before the Government of India, I am directed to observe that though, no doubt, there is a good deal of force in the objections of Dr. Murray to the plan proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor for providing a more extensive and useful subordinate medical agency in the interior of the Bengal Presidency, yet it does not satisfy the Lieutenant-Governor that a cheaper and more localized medical service might not be established to supplement the service of native medical officers trained at the medical college, the students of which either go into the Government service or into large towns and thickly populated districts.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor believes that what is needed is men possessing some slight elementary knowledge of medicine, capable of being employed near their own homes in epidemic outbreaks, and the scheme suggested in the communication above referred to, and which is now before Government, seems calculated to produce these.

3. To give effect to the plan of the Lieutenant-Governor without incurring greater expense than is now borne by the state on account of the allowances made at the Calcutta, Agra, and Lahore schools, the Lieutenant-Governor proposes that a reduction might be made in the stipends of the apprentices to whom it was proposed to give subsistence allowance from Government at Rs. 5 for the first year, Rs. 8 in the second year, and Rs. 10 in the third year of their term: they might receive Rs. 4, 6, and 8 per mensem respectively, and the apprentices would further be used, as far as possible, as compounders, dressers, &c., and the pay they receive in these capacities will be considered as forming part of their stipends, so that the extra charge upon Government will be considerably reduced.

4. A further reference has been made to Dr. Murray, inviting his opinion as to the advisability of opening medical classes in connection with the mofussil colleges, and on the receipt of this report the Government of India will again be communicated with on this subject.

No. 1684.

COPY of the above letter is forwarded to the inspector-general of hospitals, Indian medical department, with the request that he will be good enough to submit the report referred to in the last paragraph of the above communication, which was omitted to be noticed in the report forwarded in his letter No. 466 of the 9th August 1869.

From J. MURRAY, Esq., M.D., Inspector General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 504, dated Fort William, the 19th August 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the consideration of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, letter No. 818, dated 11th August 1869, from the deputy inspector-general of hospitals of Dacca, and enclosures from the civil surgeon, regarding the establishment of a medical school at Dacca.

2. The establishment of a medical school at Dacca would entail very considerable expense on Government, which at present supports a highly-paid and efficient medical college, within two days' travelling of Dacca, with similar climate, habits, and food. The education there would ever be more efficient, and an increased number of pupils would diminish the relative expense of the staff. I would recommend the pupils who would desire to enter the apothecary or licentiate class being sent to Calcutta, where so many of their brethren are at present, in preference to establishing a separate medical school at Dacca.

3. The advantages of the Mitford hospital might, however, be utilized by attaching native medical pupils to it for education as native doctors, who by Government General Order No. 550 of 5th June 1868 are required to pass their first two years' service at a civil or military hospital. The deputy inspector-general of Dacca reports that there are over sixty lads ready to enter the service of Government as above, but that he is uncertain about their disposal. These men would be available for service everywhere.

4. If a large number of these pupils should be attached to the Mitford hospital, the assistance of an apothecary, as noted in my letter No. 503, would become an actual necessity.

5. The appointment of a superintendent of vaccination for Dacca and Eastern Bengal generally has already been treated of.

6. Be so good as to return the enclosures when no longer required.

From H. B. BUCKLE, Esq., M.D., Officiating Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, Dacca Circle, to the Secretary, Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department,—(No. 818, dated Dacca, the 11th August 1869.)

IN forwarding the accompanying* correspondence, I have the honor to state that upwards of sixty applications for admission to the service as native medical pupils have been received at this office.

2. The applicants have been instructed in English, and understand, read, and write English. The reasons for these numerous applications are, that on account of the several schools and college at Dacca, English education is very general; that the lads being educated up to a certain point, but not being able to enter the University, or to continue their education on account of want of means, or other causes, sought eagerly to take advantage of the career offered by G. O. G. G. No. 550, contrary though to the opinion of the deputy inspector of schools "that a Bengalee class should be attached to the Mitford hospital," my conviction is that it should be an English class, and that instruction should be given in that language, and a competent knowledge of English be required before admission.

3. On first hearing of the proposition my impression coincided with that of the civil surgeon of Dacca, as expressed in his letter No. 129, dated 5th May, to the address of the

inspector of schools; and it was only on becoming acquainted with the applicants that they were an English class, much the same material as that from which sub-assistant surgeons come, and that instead of providing for, and impressing the importance of, "English training for native doctors," (hospital assistants,) it was here ready at hand that the advantage of encouraging this movement occurred to me.

4. With this explanation, I beg to submit the subject for the consideration of the inspector-general of hospitals as to what steps he would consider it desirable to recommend, or whether it should be brought to the notice of the Government of Bengal.

5. With reference to paragraph 3, in the civil surgeon's letter No. 298, if the suggestions were adopted, either in part or the whole, the question of adequate provision for the proper training of native medical pupils at the Mitford hospital would be considered, and his opinion called for. A difficulty is now experienced in the working of the Mitford hospital as regards the internal economy; the surgical and medical care of the patients fully occupy the time of the sub-assistant surgeon, rendering it difficult to give that attention to the diet, times of giving food, &c., so necessary for the successful treatment of disease. A statement is attached shewing how the work at the hospital has increased; but it is the greater attention now given to hospital practice, in keeping correct histories of cases, statistics, &c., and in fact to every detail of the institution that cause, what was once an efficient establishment, to be now considered inadequate.

6. With reference to the applicants to enter the service as native medical pupils, no answer has been given them. Some of them cannot at present read Debnagri, a few weeks would be enough for a Hindoo lad to acquire that.

From ASSISTANT-SURGEON H. C. CUTCLIFFE, F.R.C.S., Officiating Civil Surgeon of Dacca, to DR. H. B. BUCKLE, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals,—(No. 298, dated Dacca, the 7th August 1869.)

As the number of applicants for admission to the native medical pupil examination for entrance to the hospital assistants' class of native medical subordinates has been so considerable, and as I am frequently applied to by natives of various classes to know if the Government will establish a medical school in connexion with the Mitford hospital, I now consider it to be my duty to lay before you copies of a correspondence between the inspector of schools, educational department, and myself, in order that you may perceive that there is reason to believe that there really does exist amongst the natives of Eastern Bengal a desire to have established a medical school in connexion with the Mitford hospital.

2. I viewed the question of the establishment of a medical school, as suggested by the educational department, first with regard to economy, and second with regard to efficiency. There are obviously other views which I did not discuss, nor was I, when writing my letter, aware that, under the existing orders of the Government of India relating to the hospital assistant class, it would soon be necessary for the Government to consider what arrangements should be made for the preliminary training of the lads, who by Government General Order of 17th February 1868, and of 2nd June 1868, would be attached to the Mitford hospital.

3. I assume that it is obvious that the Government will not permit a large number of native youths to be attached to the Mitford hospital, without making adequate provisions for their proper training, and I need scarcely say that the present establishment, already insufficient for the proper working of so large a hospital, would be utterly incompetent to undertake extensive educational labour in addition to their own present duty of ministering to the wants of the sick.

4. I think it right further to inform you that before I was addressed by the educational department, I had been applied to by Mr. Graham, the officiating magistrate, respecting the establishment of a medical school in connection with the Mitford hospital. Mr. Graham strongly set forth the urgent requirement of increased medical aid in Eastern Bengal. Judging from what has been written by my predecessors in their sanitary reports with which I believe you are familiar, I venture to think that there can be no reason to doubt that if a large number of well-educated native medical practitioners could be turned out in Eastern Bengal, a vast boon would be conferred on the people.

5. As you are here on the spot, I think that in consideration of the temporary nature of my present appointment, I shall best meet the exigencies of the case by laying before you my present communication, and soliciting you, in your official capacity, to consider the questions which have been mooted, and which appear to me to be of somewhat too broad a nature for me further to enter into. I beg, however, to add that I hesitate further to deal with these subjects, not from any lukewarmness or want of zeal in the matter, but simply because in my present position I think it would hardly be becoming in me to do more than make you acquainted with what has come to my knowledge, and to express my perfect willingness cordially to co-operate in whatever the Government may determine to do.

From ASSISTANT-SURGEON H. C. CUTCLIFFE, F.R.C.S., Officiating Civil Surgeon of Dacca, to C. B. CLARKE, Esq., Inspector of Schools, South-East Division,—(No. 129, dated Dacca, the 5th May 1869.)

I HAVE delayed answering your letter No. 331, dated the 20th April 1869, in order that I might obtain information from the most desirable sources as to whether such a scheme as

that proposed by the senior deputy inspector of schools in the division, for the establishment of a medical school in Dacca, is or is not practicable.

I must premise my remarks by reminding you that I have only lately come to Dacca, and that I am almost wholly unacquainted with Eastern Bengal.

2. My impression is, that with such an excellent institution as the Calcutta medical college, so near at hand, it is not desirable that a local medical school should be opened in Dacca.

3. It must be admitted that, with a sufficiency of means, a medical school might be established in connection with the Dacca college and the Mitford hospital. But it is my opinion that such a school would be necessarily very costly. I can see no reasons which appear to me to be likely to induce the Government to believe that any necessity exists for the establishment of such a school.

4. I must not, however, be understood to wish to oppose the spread of medical knowledge. I have elsewhere strongly advocated its dissemination. In the present instance I think that that object could be forwarded without diverting students from the benefits of a thoroughly organized establishment with collateral advantages, nowhere else to be obtained in this Presidency. If it is expense which prevents the student from going to Calcutta, it would probably be more economical and more politic to pay him his excess in expenditure at Calcutta, and to properly educate him there, than to give him comparatively imperfect instruction at a local school in Dacca.

From C. B. CLARKE, Esq., Inspector of Schools, South-East Division, to DR. CUTCLIFFE, Civil Surgeon of Dacca;—(No. 331, dated Dacca, the 20th April 1869.)

I beg leave to enclose, herewith, an extract from the annual report of the senior deputy inspector in this division.

I shall be much obliged if you will endorse thereon a line, intimating your opinion whether such a scheme is practicable, and whether you think it advisable to commence an agitation on the subject.

Proposition for a Bengalee Department to be attached to the Mitford Hospital.

"THE want of a Bengalee department to be attached to the Mitford hospital, like that attached to the Calcutta medical college, is greatly felt by the people of East Bengal. The class of people who are most anxious to receive education in this department is large in number and generally poor, and cannot therefore meet the high expenses of living in Calcutta. The number that can possibly repair to the Calcutta institution with Government scholarships and free studentships from this quarter is a mere nothing. The medical profession cannot, therefore, I may say, spread in East-Bengal, which the community at large most grievously feel. As the high importance of the subject is universally acknowledged, I would recommend that the attention of the Government of Bengal should be called to making up this want which has now grown into a necessity.

(Sd.) BYKOONT NATH SEIN,
Deputy Inspector of Schools, Vickrampore.

Statement shewing the number of In-door and Out-door Patients at the Mitford Hospital, from 1st May 1858 to 30th June 1869.

YEARS.	IN-DOOR PATIENTS.				OUT-DOOR PATIENTS.				
	Total number of new cases treated during the 1st half-year.	Daily average, including new and old cases during the 1st half-year.	Total number of new cases treated during the 2nd half-year.	Daily average, including new and old cases during the 2nd half-year.	Total number of new cases treated during the 1st half-year.	Daily average of new cases during the 1st half-year.	Total daily average of out-patients, including both new and old cases.	Total number of new cases treated during the 2nd half-year.	Daily average of new cases during the 2nd half-year.	Total daily average of out-patients, including both new and old cases.
From 1st May to 30th June 1858.	71	...	207	...	798	13.08	2,158	11.18	...
1859	206	...	340	...	2,493	13.77	7,790	42.33	...
1860	330	...	353	...	4,415	24.25	8,324	45.23	...
1861	285	41.138	330	35.75	4,707	26.00	7,656	41.60	...
1862	282	33.167	355	65.194	5,291	29.23	7,924	43.96	...
1863	311	37.597	478	45.400	5,650	31.21	6,725	36.54	...
1864	411	45.140	355	51.200	6,024	32.09	5,080	27.60	...
1865	268	32.162	601	57.212	3,615	19.97	4,090	22.22	...
1866	351	55.425	416	57.787	2,779	15.35	4,538	24.66	...
1867	412	58.664	439	64.703	5,141	28.40	53,103	6.264	34.04
1868	389	59.512	510	67.290	5,740	31.53	65,530	6,688	38.34
1869	435	58.261	...	...	5,106	29.86	60,132	...	65,469

Total daily average of out-door patients for the month of July 1859 87,870

Total daily average of in-door patients for the month of July 1869 63,493

Total of either capital or important operations from 1st January to 9th August 1869 54

DACCA,
The 10th August 1869. }

H. C. CUTCLIFFE, F.R.C.S.,
Offy. Civil Surgeon and Supdt. of the Dacca
Mitford Hospital.

From J. MURRAY, Esq., M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals, Indian Medical Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 581, dated Fort William, the 10th September 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1683 of the 1st instant, and beg to suggest, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that the class of men which his plan would rear at dispensaries would in quality be similar to the present class of *compounders*, and that their prospect of subsisting in their own villages or boids or hakeems, when discharged after three years' training, would not be sufficiently promising to induce good men to enter. The present class of compounders and dressers attached to the dispensaries are qualified to superintend the distribution of cholera pills or medicines during epidemic attacks. The great benefit from employing numerous inferior agencies in this instance arises from the peculiarity of the disease, which, if promptly treated by simple means, is held in check and cured, whilst, if left unattended to for a few hours, all the known skill of the profession may prove powerless. It would be most dangerous to place such men in independent medical charges. The want of local interest in the present branch dispensaries arises from the imperfect training of many of the native doctors.

2. The establishment of medical classes, in connection with the mofussil colleges, would lead to a very considerable diffusion of medical science, and the production of many useful native doctors. The college training would be a valuable preliminary to the medical training. The main objection to this is the expense, the salaries of the principal and the professors are considerable; as to the professorships the chief chairs should be held by European officers. I found one practical difficulty on this point when establishing the medical school at Agra. The sharpest and most proficient in English left the school for other situations, which gave better pay than the medical department. The extension of the present medical colleges at Calcutta, Agra, and Lahore could easily supply the wants of Government with little extra expense, and of a superior quality from what could be produced at small schools.

From the HON'BLE A. EDEN, Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,—(No. 576T., dated the 4th October 1869.)

IN continuation of paragraph 4 of my letter No. 1683, dated the 1st ultimo, I am directed to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a communication No. 581, dated the 10th idem, from the inspector-general of hospitals, Indian medical department, containing an expression of his views in regard to the proposals made with a view to the more extended diffusion of elementary knowledge of English medicine, than is effected by the agency of the existing medical schools in the country.

2. It will be seen that Dr. Murray disapproves of the plan already proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor, of raising up a body of local medical practitioners, by training hospital apprentices in some of the dispensaries and hospitals in the mofussil. He also objects on financial grounds to the proposed establishment of medical classes in connection with the Government colleges in the interior, and is of opinion that the extension of the present medical colleges at Calcutta, Agra, and Lahore could easily supply the wants of Government with little extra expense.

3. Dr. Murray seems to misapprehend the real scope of the discussion, which is not as to the best means of strengthening the Government medical service, but of training up a body of local practitioners able to apply simple remedies to ordinary diseases, such as cholera, small-pox, and epidemic fever, and who should displace the present ignorant native kobirajes. What is sought is the diffusion of that every-day medical knowledge which most people in England possess, and which often enables a non-professional English gentleman with his medicine chest, in the absence of a trained medical officer, to do much good among a native country population, in respect of the treatment of the class of diseases to which they are most liable.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that a very slight modification of the present rules would lead to the diffusion of very considerable elementary knowledge of medicine. At present a candidate for Government service passes a preliminary examination in the vernacular (reading and writing); he then joins a hospital or civil dispensary where he remains for two years; then, if favorably reported on, he goes to the medical college, where, after two years more, he passes an examination and becomes a passed medical pupil, eligible for promotion to the rank of hospital assistant or native doctor. It seems to the Lieutenant-Governor that if the condition of Government service is dispensed with and the practical knowledge acquired during the first two years of attendance at hospital, is combined with a certain amount of instruction of a theoretical kind at the end of that time, or after three years at most, a very useful class of men would be available.

5. In regard to the establishment of medical classes at mofussil colleges, though perhaps it would be too expensive to do this at all the colleges, a school of the kind suggested might, as an experimental measure, be established at Dacca in connection with the Mitford hospital. The civil surgeon and sub-assistant surgeon of Dacca, assisted by one or two more competent sub-assistant surgeons, would be able to give instruction in elementary anatomy and

surgery, simple medicine and *materia medica*, and the ordinary operations of midwifery. At the end of this course of instruction, or in the case of those trained in the district hospitals and dispensaries, as proposed in paragraph 6 of my letter No. 1338, dated 28th July, at the end of the three years' apprenticeship, a certificate should be given to such as can pass an examination in these studies, conducted under the orders of the deputy inspector-general of the circle, and a board of medical officers selected by him, and they should then be at liberty either to continue in Government service as compounders and subordinate native doctors, or to go back to their villages. In times of epidemic, they might be taken temporarily into Government employ.

6. Details of this plan, if it should be generally approved by the Government of India, will be settled and submitted for sanction hereafter.

From E. C. BAYLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Judicial Department, — (No. 365, dated Fort William, the 20th January 1870.)

No. 1358, dated 28th July last, and enclosure.
" 1383, dated 1st September last, and enclosure.
" 676T, dated 4th October last, and enclosure.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of the letters noted in the margin.

2. The first one recommends a proposal submitted by the sanitary commissioner for Bengal, for the sale, in the interior, of certain European medicines at cost price.

3. In reply, and with reference to the earlier communication from the Government of Bengal, (No. 1203, dated the 19th of July last,) I am directed to state that the Government of India will be prepared to sanction the sale of medicines at cost price, in the manner proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor, whenever means exist for properly dispensing them.

4. The two other letters recommend for adoption a plan for providing a more extensive and useful subordinate medical agency in the interior of the Bengal Presidency, *viz.*, the organization of a body of local practitioners able to afford ordinary medical relief on the outbreak of epidemic disease.

5. In reply, I am directed to state that the Government of India will leave it to the Lieutenant-Governor to adopt any course in this matter which may commend itself to His Honor's judgment, but that it is impossible, under existing circumstances, to allot any contribution on this account from imperial revenues.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, — (No. 506, dated Fort William, the 10th February 1870.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 365, dated the 20th ultimo, and, in reply, to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, that steps will be taken at once to arrange for the sale of European medicines at cost price in the interior.

2. With regard, however, to the questions of providing a more extensive and useful subordinate medical agency in the interior, and the establishment of a medical school in Dacca, in connection with the Mitford hospital, for the training of local practitioners, I am to say that it will be impossible for the Lieutenant-Governor to take any steps to advance those schemes in the entire absence of funds.

Visitation of Refuge Houses in the Soonderbuns.

From J. GEOGHEGAN, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, — (No. 1435T, dated Darjeeling, the 11th August 1866.)

With reference to the enclosed copy of a letter No. 2168, dated the 24th ultimo, from the officiating master attendant, reporting the result of the search made for the missing boats' crew of the late ship *Jane Jack Mitchell*, and to the remarks therein made regarding the houses of refuge being plundered by natives, I am directed to enquire whether you can arrange for the occasional visitation of these refuges by the police of the Soonderbuns during fine weather intervals, as suggested by Captain Howe.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. PUGHE, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, — (No. 1170T, dated Darjeeling, the 6th September 1866.)

With reference to your No. 1435T, dated 11th ultimo, I have the honor to state that it is only practicable during the months of November, December and January to visit the

houses of refuge on the sea-coast of the Soonderbuns in the river police boats; at any other season it would be necessary to do so in good sea-going boats. It is only during the three months above-mentioned that wood-cutters and fishermen venture to visit the sea-coast to pick up wrecks, drift wood, &c., and it is not improbable that they then take the opportunity of robbing the refuge houses.

2. I would therefore suggest that a European inspector or assistant superintendent be deputed to visit the coast refuges during the said months for the purpose of tracing the robbers. The task would not be difficult, as those who follow this trade are limited in number.

From J. GEOGHEGAN, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,—(No. 2909T, dated Darjeeling, the 8th October 1866.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1170T, dated the 6th ultimo, and in reply to inform you that the Lieutenant-Governor approves of your suggestion that a European inspector or assistant superintendent of police be deputed to make occasional visits to the houses of refuge on the sea-coast of the Soonderbuns during the months of November, December and January of every year.

2. All information as to the position, nature and contents of these houses can be obtained from the master attendant's office.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. PUGHE, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 95, dated the 8th January 1867.)

WITH reference to your No. 2909T, dated 8th October, I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor, a report from the assistant superintendent of the 24-Pergunnahs, detailing the results of his visit to the houses of refuge, as well as a letter from the district superintendent forwarding the same.

2. The recommendations made by the assistant superintendent, with reference to preventing the theft of the articles stolen, deserve consideration. The master attendant's attention might be drawn to the same.

3. I would recommend that a reward of Rs. 100 be offered to any one who would produce evidence leading to the conviction of the thieves, and a free pardon to an accomplice. The houses are so unprotected and so liable to be robbed, that extra precautions appear to be necessary for their safety.

I solicit the return of the original correspondence.

From CAPTAIN Q. D. PARSONS, District Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, 1st Circle,—(No. 1892, dated the 12th December 1866.)

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 1165, dated 3rd November 1866, I have the honor to forward the accompanying diary from assistant superintendent Baboo Juggodish Nauth Roy, who has just returned from inspecting houses of refuge Nos. 1 and A.

In No. 1 the following articles are missing:—

Oars and sails for raft. Out of two cases of biscuits one was half full and the other quite full.

All the clothing had been stolen, viz., shirts, trowsers, blankets, boots, matches, cottons, candles, and the tin-cutter and chart were also gone. The case containing the bottles was empty.

In house A. everything had been taken but the following articles:—

A raft and three oars, three straw hats, one and a half boxes of biscuits, the chart and paper of instructions. I have directed Mr. Smith, sub-inspector of river police, to take up his head-quarters at Mud Point, and during the remainder of the cold season to devote his attention to inspecting these houses, and to endeavour to apprehend some of the plunderers, and to send a report monthly of his proceedings to this office. Inspector Lorimer has been deputed to visit and report on the state of the other houses not yet visited.

Memorandum from CAPTAIN W. R. GORDON, Officiating Deputy Inspector-General of Police, —(No. 1488, dated the 28th December 1866.)

COPY forwarded to the personal assistant for information, with reference to his memorandum No. 3174 of 31st October 1866.

Diary of Baboo Juggodish Nauth Roy, Assistant District Superintendent, 24-Pergunnahs.

1st December 1866.—Under orders of the district superintendent, start at 10 A.M. for the purpose of inspecting the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbuns. Reach Oolooberiah during the night.

2nd December 1866.—Leave Oolooberiah at 10 A.M. with the ebb tide and reach Hooghly Point at night.

3rd December 1866.—Start from Hooghly at 10 A.M. and reach Rungafulla in the evening.

4th December 1866.—Start from Rungafulla early in the morning and enter the Channel Creek with the flood tide. Boat gets stranded on a sand bank opposite Corelier Creek; it having floated with the night's flood tide, pass the Moorigunga, Hood's Point, and Pocock's Point during the night.

5th December 1866.—A good breeze assisting the ebb tide; reach Sagor Point House of Refuge No. 1 at 3 P.M. The sea was calm like an infant asleep, the ripples caused by the breeze adding to its beauty. A sand bank has formed itself in front of the house to the extent of some hundreds of yards, and going up to it from the side of the khal, as described in the officiating master attendant's letter, I had to walk ankle deep in sand and mud for the space of about 500 yards or more. The position of the house is very nice, being situated on a sandy place, and free of jungle on all sides. It can be seen from a long way off. There is no flagstaff attached to the house. One should be erected to assist observation from the sea. The ladder was up, and the house seemed to be in very good condition. A bolt should perhaps be added to the trap-door to add to the security. There was a raft beneath the house but no oars; oars and a bit of sail with a pole might be added with advantage. Of two maunds of biscuit in two cases, I found one case only half full and about one-fourth of the other gone. The case containing the clothing had been cut open, and shirts, trowsers, blankets, boots, matches, cottons, candles, tin-cutter, and chart were all gone. The case containing bottles was also empty. I found only six straw hats, two lanterns, an axe, a paper containing instructions from the assistant master attendant, and the tank of water (full). I observed a well-trodden footpath leading to the house from the khal. This fact, combined with that of the tank of water being full, and the articles suitable for native consumption and use being taken away, evidently shews that the house has been robbed by fishers and others frequenting these parts. I did not observe any drinking vessel in the house. Tin drinking vessels may be added to the other supplies. But the question is, how to preserve the supplies and prevent in future these dastardly, cruel, and atrocious robberies? Occasional visits by assistant district superintendents of police, unless supplemented by other more efficient arrangements, will scarcely do much good. I respectfully beg to submit the following plans for the consideration of the authorities:—Four out of six English sailors now-a-days know how to read and write; the paper of instructions by the assistant master attendant takes this fact for granted, I should suppose. Half the supplies should be enclosed in a strong iron box, with a strong lock and key or a strong China lock. In case a lock and key be used, the key should be hidden under-ground, or stowed away in some secret place of concealment. The paper of instructions should detail the place where the key may be concealed, or shew the ciphers of the China lock. The other half of the supplies may be kept as they are now, to take their chance, for the benefit of uneducated sailors and lascars. The river police establishment of the 24-Pergunnahs is not very efficient; but Mr. sub-inspector Smith may be deputed, with his boat, for the protection of the four houses of refuge, and his only duty may consist of the inspection and protection of the stores. During the winter months he may be patrolling the houses all along, and during the monsoon he can visit them once at least a month. His headquarters may be at Mud Point, being the chief outlet through which the robbers will have to pass.* They belong chiefly to Diamond Harbour and Mendleghat. I would also propose that a reward of Rs. 200 be given to every police officer for every capture that he may make of these robbers leading to conviction; also, that a reward of the same amount may be given to every informer who may give information leading to conviction. Should the informer be one of the gang of robbers, a free pardon should be also offered to him. Notice of these rewards should be published in the *Gazette*, in the magistrate's office at Alipore, at Diamond Harbour, and at Mendleghat.

* Two muskets with a sufficient number of cartridges should be made over to Mr. Smith, together with two Seikh or up-country constables. The houses are situated in the midst of jungle infested by tigers.

Having only my clerk to depend upon, nobody with me being able to afford any information, I have missed house A. Come back to it with the flood tide.

6th December 1866.—Inspect house A. in the morning. This house is surrounded by jungle. A few yards round about it, and a foot-path from the river side, have been only cleared. This house also is in good condition. The ladder was down and covered with mud. Being in a more frequented locality, this refuge has been even more plundered than the other. Find only the following articles:—A raft and three oars, a tank of water, three good straw hats (two have been destroyed by rats), and one box full and one half full of biscuits; there is a flagstaff here, which makes it a conspicuous object from the river. The chart and paper of instructions have not been stolen.

Unfortunately my supply of fresh water falls short to-day; obliged to return for the present; reach Mud Point with the evening's flood tide.

7th December 1866.—Leave Mud Point with the morning's flood tide and reach Hooghly Point with the evening's flood tide.

8th December 1866.—Start from Hooghly Point with the morning's flood tide and reach Naldurry in the evening.

9th December 1866.—Start with the night's flood tide and reach head-quarters in the evening.

From S. C. BAYLEY, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces.—(No. 397, dated Fort William, the 24th January 1867.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 95, dated 8th instant, with its enclosures, proposing certain measures for the better protection of the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbuns, and in reply to inform you that the officiating master attendant has been requested to adopt, as far as practicable, such of the measures recommended as relate to the marine department.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor, I am to add, approves of the proposal that the sub-inspector of the river police of the 24-Pergunnahs should, in future, visit these houses constantly during the cold season, and once a month at least during the monsoons.

3. His Honor doubts, however, the expediency of offering a reward for the capture of thieves, except in the case of past offences.

4. The original enclosures of your letter are herewith returned.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. PUGHE, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, — (No. 3791, dated the 22nd June 1867.)

2. I also forward copy of a letter and chart from the master attendant, from which it will be seen that that officer considers that a strong covered boat with a good crew is absolutely necessary.

3. Should the Lieutenant-Governor sanction the expenditure of the sum of Rs. 6,000 for the construction of a boat, I will submit a statement of the cost of the crew for formal sanction.

Copy of a letter from the District Superintendent of Police, 24-Pergunnahs, to the Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, No. 793, dated Alipore, the 21st May 1867.

In continuation of my letter No. 17 of the 4th January 1867, and in reply to your office memorandum No. 2210, dated 10th April 1867, forwarding copy of a letter from the officiating master attendant to the inspector-general of police, lower provinces, No. 907, dated 2nd April 1867, I have the honor to forward a copy of memorandum No. 3751 from the officiating superintendent of the dock-yard, giving an estimate of the probable cost for the construction of a suitable boat, for the purpose of visiting the houses of refuge, together with a jolly-boat for landing, rupees (6,000) six thousand.

Copy of a memorandum from the Officiating Superintendent, Government Dock-yard, to the District Superintendent of Police, 24. Pergunnahs, No. 3751, dated 13th May 1867.

With reference to your letter No. 648 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honor to furnish an estimate as per margin of the probable cost for the construction of a suitable boat, for the purpose of visiting the houses of refuge. The cost of a jolly-boat is included in this estimate.

Material	... ... ...	Rs. 4,680
Labor	... ... ...	1,320
Total	... ...	Rs. 6,000

Copy of a letter from Officiating Master Attendant, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, No. 3053, dated the 14th June 1867,

In continuation of this office letter No. 907 of April last, I have the honor to forward the accompanying charts showing the position of, and route to the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds.

The red dotted lines shew the best track.

House A. No. 1 and No. 3 can be visited all the year round, but it is absolutely necessary to have a covered boat (for row-boat) with a crew of at least fourteen men in charge of an experienced serang or secunnie.

Houses Nos. 2, 4, and 5 are somewhat dangerous to approach during the south-western monsoon, being exposed to wind and sea. There is, however, a creek about three miles to north of No. 2, in which a boat can lay quite snug, while the crew can visit the house by following the beach round to it.

Nos. 4 and 5 are much exposed, and as there is always a heavy surf on during the south-western monsoon, none but experienced boat-men should attempt a landing; with inexperienced men, a boat is almost certain to be bilged or broken.

The approach to, and landing at these houses should be effected during an ebb-tide, when it is comparatively smooth as with the flood there is always a swell and surf.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Master Attendant,—(No. 2987, dated Fort William, the 5th July 1867.)

THE inspector-general of police has submitted a proposition to Government for the construction of a good sea-going boat at a cost of Rs. 6,000, to enable the police to pay occasional visits to the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds during the monsoons, of the nine months from February to October inclusive. Before passing any orders on the proposal, the Lieutenant-Governor desires to know whether any such boat, belonging to the marine department, could be made available from time to time for the purpose indicated.

From CAPTAIN H. HOWE, Officiating Master Attendant, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 0656, dated the 26th July 1867.)

WITH reference to your letter No. 2987 of the 5th instant, I have the honor to report, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, that one of the laid-up dâk boats will be fitted and made available for the purpose required by the inspector-general of police.

From H. L. HARRISON, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,—(No. 3724, dated Fort William, the 2nd September 1867.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3791, dated the 22nd June last, requesting sanction to the construction of a good sea-going boat, at a cost of Rs. 6,000, to enable the police occasionally to visit the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds during the monsoons, with the view of protecting the stores kept in these houses from being robbed.

2. This application is considered necessary with reference to the orders of Government, No. 397, dated the 24th January last, enjoining the police to visit the houses of refuge once at least in every month during the monsoons. But from your letter No. 1170T, dated 6th September 1866, it appears that there is little danger of the houses of refuge being robbed except in the months of November, December, and January; and on receipt of that letter the Government ordered, in Government Order No. 2909T, dated 8th October 1866, that occasional visits to them be made by a European inspector or assistant superintendent of police in those months only. The Lieutenant-Governor considers that these orders were generally sufficient to meet the requirements; and for visits at that season of the year the ordinary police boats are sufficient.

3. If however for any reason a visit should be necessary in the monsoons (that is during the nine months of the year commencing with February,) I am desired to state that, on an application being made by you to the master attendant, one of the laid-up dâk boats will be fitted out and made available for the purpose.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. R. PUGHE, Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 480T., dated Camp Mozufferpore, the 16th January 1869.)

WITH reference to your No. 3724, dated the 2nd September 1867, I have the honor to report that a dâk boat has been fitted up as therein suggested for the use of the police officers visiting the Soonderbunds, but that a jolly boat is also required to enable the officers to land.

2. The cost of such boat, as will be seen by the accompanying letter, is put down at Rs. 450. This sum must be met by savings from the police budget or be debited to the Marine department as the Lieutenant-Governor may think proper.

From CAPTAIN S. G. BOON, Superintendent, Government Dock-yard, Kidderpore, to CAPTAIN JOHN G. REDDIE, Master Attendant,—(No. 56, dated Kidderpore, the 6th January 1869.)

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 8394 of the 31st ultimo, enclosures herewith returned, I have the honor to state that the sum of Rs. 450 will be the probable cost of constructing a four-oared jolly boat complete as per requisition of the district superintendent of police, 24-Pergunnahs.

The amount is not provided for in the marine budget and should be met from the budget for the police department.

Memorandum from CAPTAIN H. HOWE, Deputy Master Attendant,—(No. 90, dated the 7th January 1869.)

COPY forwarded to the district superintendent of police, 24-Pergunnahs, for information, with reference to his memorandum No. 1541, dated 30th ultimo.

Memorandum from CAPTAIN W. B. BIRCH, District Superintendent of Police, 24 Pergunnahs, —(No. 39, dated Alipore, the 9th January 1869.)

Copy forwarded to the personal assistant to the inspector-general of police, lower provinces, for such orders as may be deemed necessary. The boat is required to enable officers

visiting the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds to land from the larger boat which is now impracticable.

From THOMAS JONES, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,—(No. 526, dated Fort William, the 25th January 1869.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 480T., dated the 16th instant, with enclosures, and in reply to inform you that the Lieutenant-Governor sanctions the proposed expenditure of Rs. 450 for the construction of a jolly boat required to enable the police of the 24-Pergunnahs to visit the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds during the monsoons. The charge should be met from general savings in the police budget for the current financial year.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. H. PATERSON, Officiating Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Judicial Department,—(No. 6542, dated Fort William, the 8th September 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 2862, dated the 10th ultimo, requesting me to report what means the police of the districts bordering the Soonderbunds have at present of visiting their coasts, and what boat establishments are entertained for the purpose.

2. In reply I beg to annex a statement shewing the boat establishments of the districts of Jessor and 24-Pergunnahs, exclusive of the boats employed at police stations for serving processes and similar duties.

3. In Jessor the boats are all of the kind called "pansways," and unfit for use far down the large rivers.

4. In the 24-Pergunnahs there are three boats which might be used to visit the sea-face of the Soonderbunds in favorable weather, and are fairly safe in the rivers.

5. To perform the duty suggested by the officiating master attendant, it would be necessary to have an additional and special establishment with good sea-going boats, manned at least in part by lascars. Such an establishment might usefully supplement the existing boat establishment, which is reported to be insufficient for the work already required of it.

Statement shewing the boat establishment of the Districts of Jessor and 24-Pergunnahs, exclusive of boats employed at police stations for serving processes and similar purposes.

Number of boats.	24-Pergunnahs.	Monthly cost.	Annual cost.	Number of boats.	Jessor.	Monthly cost.	Annual cost.
2	Water police head-quarters ...	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	16	Boats. 16 manjees, at Rs. 8 each per mensem 10½ dandees, at Rs. 6 each per mensem Hire of boats, at Rs. 13 each mensem	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
3	Kallyunge	...			...	128 0 0	
1	Nychattee	...				624 0 0	
2	Diamond Harbour	...				203 0 0	
1	Kedgeree	...					
1	Bhaugur	...					
Total ... 10	With 10 manjees, at Rs. 8-0-6 each per mensem And 5½ dandees, at Rs. 6 each per mensem	80 0 0 324 0 0	4,848 0 0				
		404 0 0 462 0 0	5,544 0 0				
	For salt preventive purposes...						
	Total ...	866 0 0	10,392 0 0				
					Total ...	960 0 0	11,520 0 0

BENGAL POLICE OFFICE;
FORT WILLIAM,
The 8th September 1869.

A. H. PATERSON, Lieut.-Col.,
Offic. Inspector-General of Police, L. P.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,—(No. 5829, dated Fort William, the 2nd November 1869.)

WITH reference to your letter No. 6542 of the 8th September last, I am directed to say that the Lieutenant-Governor cannot at present sanction the expenditure necessary for a salt-water police even if such a force be required, which is not certain. I am, however, to

request that you will be good enough to report whether the houses of refuge on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds are visited from time to time during the south-west monsoon, by the boat specially provided for the purpose in 1867,* and whether they are regularly inspected in the cold-weather.

* From the inspector-general of police, lower provinces, No. 3791, dated 22nd June 1867.

To the inspector-general of police, lower provinces, No. 3724, dated 2nd September 1867.

From LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. H. PATERSON, Officiating Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Judicial Department,—(No. 7377, dated Fort William, the 28th October 1869.)

IN continuation of my letter No. 6542, dated the 8th September last, I have the honor to submit some further correspondence on the subject of boat service on the coast of the Soonderbunds.

2. It appears to be clear from the letter of the district superintendent of police, Backergunge, and from Mr. Morell's note, that such a service as that proposed by the master attendant would cost a good deal and could do but little. Mr. Owen in fact shews that at the only time boats could safely be employed they are not wanted.

From MAJOR W. R. GORDON, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, 1st Circle, to the Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General of Police, Lower Provinces,—(No. 1754, dated Barrackpore, the 4th October 1869.)

WITH reference to your No. 6081, dated 19th August 1869, and enclosures, I have the honor to report that none of the districts in this circle bordering on the sea-face of the Soonderbunds are supplied with boats which would enable the police to render any assistance to life or property placed in jeopardy during the prevalence of the south-west monsoon.

2. As Mr. M. Morell, of Morellgunge, knows the sea-face of the Soonderbunds of the Jessore district well, and as he had lately returned from a trip which he had made there to see if he could discover any part of the wreck of the steamer *Cheduba*, I shewed him the master attendant's letter enclosed in your memorandum now under reply, and asked him to be good enough to favor me with his views on the subject of a water police, and the nature of the boats with which they should be provided.

3. Mr. Morell kindly drew out a memorandum on the subject, and I beg to enclose a copy of it; he has dealt with the subject most fully, and his intimate knowledge of the tract of country he writes about gives additional weight to his views.

4. Mr. Owen, the district superintendent of Backergunge, who during his service has passed much of his time in that district, has also given his views on the subject, which I beg to enclose, (letter No. 829 of 30th August, and memorandum.)

5. From what Messrs. Morell and Owen write, it is evident that the establishment of a water police for the sea-face would necessitate a particular class of boats being built, and when that was done, it is very questionable if crews, who would really do their duty properly, could be entertained.

The expenses of such a police would be considerable, and I think it is very questionable if in the end they would succeed in being of much use.

Memorandum from W. L. OWEN, Esq., District Superintendent of Backergunge, to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, 1st Circle,—(No. 829, dated the 30th August 1869.)

IN reply to his memorandum No. 247 current, dated 25th instant, begs to state that the police of this district have no means of visiting its sea-face abutting on the Soonderbund tracts.

2. Country boats are not capable of doing so, on account of the swell existing in the Bay of Bengal; there being no places of shelter on the coast in case of rough weather.

3. If it be considered expedient to establish a boat on the sea-face of this district to search for wrecks, &c., one of European construction, built at the Government dock-yard like the one employed in the 24-Pergunnahs, will be required. This boat must also be manned by a crew capable of handling her and habituated to the sea, the boatmen in this district being only accustomed to smooth water navigation, have a great dread of the sea and are decidedly averse to take service, owing to which much difficulty is experienced in getting men for the district superintendent's boat here. Men from Noakhally, on Rs. 7 each, are accordingly entertained; these crews are not perfectly competent. Under these circumstances the boat in question will have to be manned by natives of Chittagong, on account of their being accustomed to sea voyages and to handling boats of European build. What their wages are likely to be could be best ascertained from the district superintendent of Chittagong.

Memorandum on Master Attendant's suggestion about a river police by Mr. Morell of Morellgunge.

REGARDING the proposition of the officiating master attendant to establish a water police for the purpose of searching the sea face of the Soonderbunds for wrecked property, and the possible preservation of life after a cyclone, the first thing to be taken into consideration would be the establishment and boats that would be required to carry it out; *secondly*, the method to be adopted for searching the coast effectually; and *thirdly*, the benefit likely to be derived.

Regarding the establishment, I would suggest that it would be necessary to entertain a competent European officer (a sailor if possible) with ten boatmen and a manjee. He would require two good first-class sea-going boats, one to live in, and an open boat to pull round parts of the coast: a boat similar to those used on the Madras coast would answer the purpose better than any other, as she would be less likely to suffer in the surf than an English built one.

I would suggest that in the Jessoro Soonderbunds the search should commence from Tiger Point and be carried on to the Murghatta river. A boat stationed at Morellgunge could run down the Bhola river into the Banimore, and from there through a small khall called the "Sookpara," which falls into the sea about two miles below Tiger Point. From the Sookpara the party would have to walk, or in fine weather pull up to Tiger Point and back again to the mouth of the Banimore river. There is a sandy beach the whole way along, which in rough weather they could walk. They might then return through the Sookpara and pull out down the Banimore to an island situated between it and the Bograh river; there is generally a lot of drift wood, &c., on this island, which has a sea-face of about five miles in length. After searching this, they could run at flood-tide behind the island into the Bograh river, look along its bank, run up for about half a reach and cross once and come down its western bank, and walk round the point between it and the mouth of the Pussur. Except in very fine weather it would not be advisable to pull round this point, as there is generally a very heavy surf on it. They would then have to take the flood tide and run up to where the Pussur joins the Murghatta, and come down its eastern side as far as they could, and walk the rest; they would then have to go back till they got beyond the surf, cross over and come down along the western bank, and walk round to the mouth of the Burra Pungee river, where the beat ought to end, as it would take them a week at least from point to point. I don't know the coast beyond the west bank of the Murghatta, or Morjat, as it is called by the wood-cutters.

From my experience of the coast, I should think there is little or no chance of valuable property being cast on shore beyond an occasional mast piece and broken planks. There is no doubt that life might in some instances be saved. The work would naturally be a very hazardous one, as the jungle is infested by tigers, and it would be requisite to have the men engaged in it well armed. The route suggested is one I have gone myself, and presents no great difficulties to a determined man, but at the same time I am quite certain that no party of natives would attempt it by themselves during the south-west monsoon.

Memorandum on Master Attendant's suggestion about a river police by the District Superintendent of Police, Backergunge.

THE sea-face of Backergunge extends from the Haringhatta river on the west to the Rubnabad islands on the east. Between these points large rivers fall into the Bay, all of which are most difficult to enter from sea direction owing to extensive sand shoals; in fact, this entire coast extends far out to sea, affording no shelter to small boats, which could not live on any part of the above coast from March to 15th October every year; so that, if a river police were organized as suggested by the master attendant, it would be practically useless, as during those months cyclones and storms prevail. It is true, frequently, drift wood, timber, and parts of wrecks, are brought by the currents and winds on this coast, but their value is comparatively so trifling, that the cost of keeping up a police boat on this part of the coast would be so great as to outweigh all advantages arising from the measure. Besides, no boat, not thoroughly equipped and built for rough weather, and commanded by a European, would answer any purpose; I feel certain no native serang would ever venture out during the period above mentioned. For the rest of the year, the sea is calm and no cyclones occur; a boat therefore from 15th October to end of February is not required.

The only measure which would justify a large outlay of money in keeping up a thoroughly efficient boat is the saving of human life. From September 1867 to August 1869, only two vessels were wrecked on this coast, and the crews in both cases were saved, owing to the sea-face of this district being inhabited almost up to the water's edge, on account of which they were helped and assisted by the people.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Master Attendant,—(No. 5941, dated Fort William, the 9th November 1869.)

WITH reference to paragraph 7 of your letter No. 4023, dated the 2nd August last, suggesting the establishment of a water police for the purpose of searching the sea-face of the Soonderbunds for wrecked property, and the possible preservation of life after a cyclone, I

* Letter No. 6542, dated 8th September 1869, from officiating inspector-general of police, and enclosure.

Letter of Government, No. 5829, dated 2nd instant, to officiating inspector-general of police.

Letter No. 7377, dated 28th ultimo, from officiating inspector-general of police, and enclosures.

am directed to forward for your information a copy of the accompanying correspondence* on the subject, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in opinion with the officiating inspector-general of police that the measure, if sanctioned, would involve considerable expenditure without producing any adequately useful result.

Houses of Refuge in the Soonderbuns.

From CAPTAIN H. HOWE, Officiating Master Attendant, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,—(No. 614, dated Fort William, the 1st February 1870.)

WITH reference to your letter No. 3510 of the 18th October 1869, I have the honor to submit, for the information of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of a letter No. 10 of the 28th ultimo, from the conservator of Port Canning, in which he reports having completed the work of renewing, repairing, and replenishing, the houses of refuge A, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

2. A copy of the list of stores placed in each house has been sent to the inspector-general of police, lower provinces, for his information.

From W. J. C. BERESFORD, Esq., Officiating Conservator of Port Canning, to CAPTAIN H. HOWE, Officiating Master Attendant,—(No. 10, dated the 28th January 1870.)

I HAVE the honor to report my arrival at Calcutta per steamer *Prince Albert*, having completed the following works:—

Water.		Flint	...	1
Empty bottles.		Steel and tinder	...	1
Flannel shirts	... 6	Matches	...	1 box.
Trousers	... 6 pairs.	Chart in tin box	...	1
Blankets	... 6	Canvas hose	...	1
Boots	... 6 pairs.	Soup and boulli in 1 lb. tins	2 doz.	
Straw hats	... 6	Biscuit in tin	...	1 cwt.
Tin pots	... 6	Axes	...	2
Lanthorns	... 2	Rope, coir, 1 inch	...	60 fms.
Candles	... 12 lbs.	Catamaran	...	1
Nails	... 12 "	Paddles	...	3
Cold chisels	... 2	Bamboos	...	2
Hammers	... 2	Iron tanks (To new houses only.)	...	2
Gimblets	... 2			

The same stores were supplied to each house.

3. Refuge house No. 4 has been taken down and removed about 100 yards in a north-east direction, which places it about 60 yards beyond high water mark. This house has been put in thorough repair, supplied with new posts, new pins and new guys; the stores noted in the margin have been supplied to the house, also a new ladder. This house has also been robbed of its last supply, and the ladder and catamaran taken away. Three finger posts have been put up on the south side of the Dalhousie island, and one on the east side.

4. Refuge house No. 3 has been built (new) about 300 yards north-east of its former site, and about 60 yards from high water mark; it has been supplied with stores noted in the margin. Three finger posts have been put up between the house and the east side of the island and one to the northward.

5. Refuge house No. 2 (new) has been built about 200 yards to the eastward of its former position, and stores have been supplied as per margin. Two finger posts have been put up to the southward and eastward of the house, and two to the northward. This house stands about 30 yards beyond high water mark.

6. Refuge house No. 1 has been taken down and shifted about 40 yards to the southward of its former position; it has been thoroughly repaired, painted, and supplied with new posts, pins, and guys, also the stores marginally noted: the former stores, together with the catamarans have been stolen. Four finger posts have been put up between the house and the extreme eastern end of the island, also three to the northward in the direction of the A house.

7. Refuge house A has been built on the opposite side of the creek on which the former house was built (the ground on this side being higher and more firm); it has been supplied with stores as per margin, and is erected about 120 yards from the bank of the creek.

8. Every possible assistance has been rendered by the commander and crew of the steamer in carrying out this duty.

Cooly Emigrants in St. Lucia.

From HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ARGYLL, K.T., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council,—(No. 110, dated India Office, London, the 21st December 1869.)

I FORWARD herewith, for the information of your Excellency in Council, a copy of a letter* from the chairman of the emigration board to the under-secretary of state for the colonies, containing observations on bi-monthly reports received from the Government of Saint Lucia on the condition of the cooly emigrants in that Colony.

2. Your Lordship in Council will observe that the reports in question are shewn by Mr. Murdoch to be in all respects satisfactory.

From T. W. C. MURDOCH, Esq., to SIR F. ROGERS, BART., &c., &c., (dated Emigration Board, the 26th November 1869.)

I HAVE to acknowledge your letter of 20th instant, with a despatch from the administrator of the Government of Saint Lucia, enclosing the bi-monthly reports of the stipendiary magistrates on the condition of the cooly immigrants in that island.

2. These reports are satisfactory. The coolies appear to be working steadily, and to be well treated and contented. The administrator indeed points out that as they have all completed their industrial residence and are therefore free from indentures, and as their services are in great demand, there is no risk of their ill-treatment by employers. There has apparently been but one death during the period to which the reports refer, that, namely, of an elderly woman from consumption.

3. The despatch requires no notice from the Secretary of State.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Surveyor-General's Office, Calcutta, from 15th to 21st February 1870.

Month.	Date	Mean reduced Barometer. Inches.	THERMOMETER.		Max. Solar radiation, Thermometer.	Mean Dry Bulb.	Mean Wet Bulb.	Computed Mean Dew-point.	Mean Degree of Humidity.	WIND.			Rain.	GENERAL REMARKS.
			Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.						prevailing direction.	Max. pressure.	Hourly velocity.		
Feb.	15th	29.949	82.0	67.2	121.8	73.9	63.0	65.4	0.54	W, W by N & NW	...	153.5	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 11 P.M.
	16th	29.923	81.2	62.0	120.2	71.3	60.2	51.3	.51	WNW & W by N	...	121.0	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 8 P.M.
	17th	29.912	82.5	62.9	120.3	71.4	60.1	51.1	.51	WSW	...	133.5	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 9 P.M.
	18th	29.955	83.4	62.0	123.0	71.9	60.0	50.5	.49	W & WSW	...	117.5	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 7 to 9 P.M.
	19th	29.986	85.6	66.0	121.5	73.8	65.2	59.2	.62	S & W	...	155.8	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 8 & 9 P.M.
	20th	29.990	82.0	62.0	117.0	71.0	60.1	51.4	.52	WNW	...	130.2	...	Clear. Slightly foggy from 8 to 10 A.M. & 8 to 11 P.M.
	21st	29.94	81.7	61.0	120.2	71.3	61.2	53.1	.55	W & SW	...	69.6	...	Clear. Slightly foggy at 6 & 7 A.M. & 8 & 9 P.M.

The mean Barometer, as likewise the Dry and Wet Bulb Thermometer means, are derived from the twenty-four hourly observations made during the day.

The Dew-point is computed with the Greenwich constants.—The figures in column ten represent the humidity of the air, the complete saturation of which being taken at unity.—The receiver of the lower rain gauge is 1½ feet, and that of the Anemometer 70 feet 10 inches above the level of the ground.—The velocity of wind, as indicated by Robinson's Anemometer, is registered from noon to noon.

The extreme variation of temperature during the past seven days	...	24.5
The max. temperature during the past seven days	...	85.5
The max. temperature during the corresponding period of the past year	...	89.0
The mean humidity during the past seven days	...	0.53
The mean humidity during the corresponding period of the past year	...	0.73
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st		Inches.
... { by lower rain gauge	...	Nil
... { by Anemometer gauge	...	Nil
Ditto ditto, average of sixteen previous years	...	0.08
Ditto between the 1st January and the 21st current	...	0.77
Ditto ditto, average of 16 years...	...	1.20

GOPEENAUTH SEN,
In charge of the Observatory.

The 22nd February 1870.

Meteorological Telegraphic Report for the period 12th to 18th February 1870.

STATIONS.	Date.	Hour.	Barometer re- duced to 32°	THERMOMETER.		Humidity Sat. =100.	WIND.		Rain.	Weather initials.	CLOUDS.
				Dry.	Wet.		Direction.	Velocity.			
CALCUTTA.	Feb.		Inches.	⊖	⊖						
	12th	10	30.014	78.6	67.3	50	W S W	...	...	b	
		16	29.879	87.3	69.8	38	W S W	...	...	b	
	13th	10	30.004	79.0	67.3	49	W	...	...	b	
		16	29.843	88.0	70.3	37	W	...	...	b	
	14th	10	29.979	78.4	68.0	55	N N E	...	...	b	
		16	29.832	86.0	70.0	41	W N W	...	...	b	
	15th	10	29.933	74.6	60.7	40	N by E	...	...	b	
		16	29.897	82.0	62.7	29	W N W	...	...	b	
	16th	10	30.007	74.6	59.2	33	N W	...	...	b	
		16	29.859	80.8	61.6	28	W by N	...	...	b	
SARSON ISLAND.	17th	10	29.984	74.5	60.5	30	W N W	...	...	b	
		16	29.867	82.2	61.4	24	W by N	...	...	b	
	18th	10	30.025	75.0	61.3	41	W	...	...	b	
		16	29.918	83.3	62.0	23	W S W	...	...	b	
	12th	10	30.042	76	69	68	N	1	...	b m	
		16	29.897	85	75	60	W S W	1	...	b	
	13th	10	30.002	78	72	73	N W	1	...	b m	
		16	29.871	85	72	60	W S W	1	...	b m	
	14th	10	29.998	79	70	61	N E	3	...	b m	
		16	29.849	88	73	46	N E	1	...	b m	
CHITTAGONG.	15th	10	30.047	79	63	36	N E	3	...	b m	
		16	29.914	83	66	66	N N E	1	...	b m	
	16th	10	30.023	78	61	32	N N E	2	...	b m	
		16	29.874	84	68	40	N W	1	...	b m	
	17th	10	30.002	76	65	52	N N E	1	...	b m	
		10	29.872	83	64	30	N E	1	...	b m	
	18th	10	30.037	75	69	72	N	1	...	b	
		16	29.934	81	69	61	S W	1	...	b	
	12th	10	29.896	81	72	62	N N W	5.8*	...	b m	
		16	29.788	88	74	40	W	9.8*	...	b m	
MADRAS.	13th	10	29.871	84	74	60	N N W	3.9*	...	b m	
		16	29.755	86	74	54	W S W	7.0*	...	b m	
	14th	10	29.854	85	74	57	W	8.7*	...	b m	
		16	29.747	86	75	67	S W	7.8*	...	b	
	15th	10	29.899	82	68	45	N N W	4.4*	...	b m	
		16	29.838	85	67	84	W	9.8*	...	b m	
	16th	10	29.856	79	63	86	N	5.4*	...	b m	
		16	29.867	81	59	19	W	11.2*	...	b m	
	17th	10	29.850	76	63	44	N	6.1*	...	b m	
		16	29.757	80	67	47	W S W	10.9*	...	b m	
CUTTACK.	18th	10	29.897	77	68	60	N	4.5*	...	b m	
		16	29.816	80	67	47	W S W	10.1*	...	b m	
	12th	10	29.907	83	74	63	N E	8*	...	b	
		16	29.843	85	75	60	N E	10*	...	b	
	13th	10	29.982	85	76	64	N by E	7*	...	b	
		16	29.882	85	73	54	N N E	13*	...	m	
	14th	10	29.938	85	73	54	N	9*	...	b	
		16	29.841	84	74	60	N E by E	12*	...	b	
	15th	10	29.984	82	74	66	N'	8*	...	b	
		16	29.873	84	74	60	N N E	13*	...	b	
AKRAB.	16th	10	30.000	84	75	61	N by E	6*	...	b	
		16	29.872	84	73	66	N N E	10*	...	b	
	17th	10	29.972	83	74	64	N N W	3*	...	b	
		16	29.851	83	73	60	E	10*	...	b	
	18th	10	30.005	83	73	60	E	5*	...	b	
		16	29.977	74	70	81	W by N	4.2*	...	b m	
	12th	10	29.838	82	66	33	E by S	8.7*	...	m	
		16	29.987	75	66	59	W	7.6*	...	f b m	
	13th	10	29.823	84	63	25	N W	11.8*	...	b m	
		16	29.934	76	65	52	W	9.4*	...	b m	
CALCUTTA.	14th	10	29.795	86	66	29	W by N	11.4*	...	m	
		16	29.991	78	65	46	E by N	9.8*	...	b m	
	15th	10	29.860	84	67	37	W	10.5*	...	m	
		16	29.974	76	62	41	N W	9.4*	...	b m	
	16th	10	29.828	82	64	32	N W	8.8*	...	b m	
		16	29.953	74	60	39	N W	8.4*	...	b m	
	17th	10	29.825	83	60	18	N W	11.0*	...	b m	
		16	30.002	73	65	62	N	3.4*	...	b m	
	18th	10	29.863	82	64	32	N W	7.3*	...	b m	
		16	29.992	72	66	71	N E	1	...	b	
CUTTACK.	12th	10	29.863	83	77	75	N E	1	...	b	
		16	29.984	75	67	68	N E	1	...	b	
	13th	10	29.984	75	67	68	N E	1	...	b	
		16	29.837	85	72	50	N E	2	...	m q	
	14th	10	29.951	76	68	64	N E	1	...	b	
		16	29.817	85	73	54	N W	3	...	m q	
	15th	10	30.026	78	66	49	N W	1	...	b	
		16	29.837	85	68	37	N N W	4	...	m q	
	16th	10	29.940	77	63	41	N N W	2	...	m b g	
		16	29.825	83	66	38	N N W	2	...	m q	
AKRAB.	17th	10	29.905	71	62	67	N E	1	...	b m	
		16	29.851	80	65	40	N N W	2	...	b m	
	18th	10	30.027	70	61	70	N E	1	...	b	
		16	29.901	80	65	40	N N W	3	...	b q	K

* Velocity of wind in miles per hour.

In future reports the barometric readings will be given as reduced to sea-level.

CALCUTTA,
The 19th February 1870. }HENRY F. BLANFORD,
Metereological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Weekly Report of Rainfall compiled at the Meteorological Reporter's Office.

CIRCUIT.	STATIONS.	Rain from 31st Jan. to 6th Feb. 1870.	Rain from 7th to 13th Feb. 1870.	RAIN FROM 1ST JANUARY 1870.		REMARKS.
				Rain.	Up to date.	
SOUTHERN WESTERN.	Pooree ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
	False Point ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Cuttack { Telegraph Office	Nil	Nil	1'00	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Jail ...	ditto	Not received	1'05	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Sumbulpore ...	ditto	ditto	2'30	ditto.	
WESTERN.	Balusore ...	ditto	ditto	1'18	ditto.	
	Midnapore ...	Nil	Nil	0'90	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Bancoorah ...	ditto	ditto	0'35	ditto.	
	Chyebassa ...	ditto	Not received	1'50	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Purulia ...	ditto	0'35	1'22	13th Feb. 1870.	
CENTRAL.	Burdwan ...	ditto	Nil	0'20	ditto.	
	Raneeungunge ...	ditto	ditto	0'15	ditto.	
	Sooree ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Deoghrur ...	Nil	Nil	0'40	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Burhee ...	ditto	Not received	0'45	6th Feb. 1870.	
NORTH-WESTERN.	Hazareebaugh ...	ditto	0'18	0'28	13th Feb. 1870	Not received 24th to 30th Jan
	Saugor Island ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Contai ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Calcutta ...	Nil	Nil	0'77	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Howrah ...	ditto	ditto	1'42	ditto.	
NORTHERN.	Hooghly { Jail	ditto	ditto	1'00	ditto.	
	College ...	Not received	Not received	....	....
	Jessore ...	Nil	ditto	0'20	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Berhampore ...	Not received	ditto	Nil	16th Jan. 1870.	
	Furreedpore ...	Nil	ditto	ditto	6th Feb. 1870	
NORTH-EASTERN.	Burrisaul ...	ditto	Nil	ditto	13th Feb. 1870	
	Kishnagur ...	ditto	Not received	0'16	6th Feb. 1870	
	Bhaugulpore ...	Nil	Nil	0'50	13th Feb. 1870	Not received 24th to 30th Jan.
	Monghyr ...	ditto	ditto	0'16	ditto.	
	Patna ...	ditto	0'03	0'04	ditto.	
EASTERN.	Arrah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Buxar ...	ditto	0'15	0'15	ditto.	
	Chuprah ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto.	
	Chumparun ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Benares ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
EASTERN.	Rampore Bealeah ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Pubna ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Maldah ...	Not received	Not received	....	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Bograh ...	Nil	Nil	....	13th Feb. 1870	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Dinagepore ...	ditto	1.20	1'20	ditto.	
EASTERN.	Rungpore ...	ditto	Nil	Nil	ditto	Not received 10th to 23rd January.
	Julpigoree ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto.	
	Buxa ...	Not received	Not received	....	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Darjeeling ...	0'38	ditto	0'38	6th Feb. 1870	Not received 24th to 30th Jan.
	Gowalparah ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
EASTERN.	Gowhatta ...	0'30	Nil	0'30	13th Feb. 1870	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
	Shillong ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Nowgong ...	Not received	ditto	....	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Tezpore ...	0'75	ditto	0'75	ditto.	
	Dholebagau ...	1.14	ditto	1'25	ditto.	
EASTERN.	Seehaungor ...	1.20	ditto	1'20	ditto.	
	Debroghur ...	Not received	ditto	Nil	30th Jan. 1870	Not received 1st to 9th Jan.
	Samoogoodting ...	ditto	ditto	0'25	ditto	
	Cherra Poonjee ...	ditto	ditto	....	....
	Dacca ...	Nil	Not received	Nil	6th Feb. 1870	Not received 10th to 16th Jan.
EASTERN.	Mymensing ...	Not received	ditto	ditto	30th Jan. 1870.	
	Sylhet ...	0'80	ditto	0'80	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Carach ...	0'90	ditto	0'90	ditto	
	Aenakhall Hylakandy ...	0'82	ditto	0'83	ditto	
	Tipperah ...	Nil	ditto	0'10	ditto	
EASTERN.	Noakhally ...	ditto	ditto	Nil	ditto	
	Chitta- { Telegraph Office	ditto	Nil	ditto	13th Feb. 1870.	
	Jail ...	ditto	Not received	ditto	6th Feb. 1870.	
	Rangamata Hill ...	ditto	ditto	ditto	ditto	
	Akyab ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	13th Feb. 1870.	

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY MAIN LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 6th February 1870 on 1,131 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.			MERCHANTISH AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.			Total Traffic Receipts.
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.		Weight carried.	Receipts.		
Total Traffic for the week ...	1,41,068	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	
Or per mile of Railway ...	228 5 10	2,58,278 2 6	23,675 10 0	7,27,520 0	4,01,394 9 9	36,794 10 1	60,470 0 1
For previous 4 weeks of half-year ...	5,21,950	10,56,388 1 7	96,835 11 6	29,57,298 20	18,19,625 13 0	1,66,799 0 8	2,63,634 12 2
Total for 5 weeks ...	6,63,027	13,14,666 4 1	1,20,511 1 6	36,84,818 20	22,21,020 6 9	2,03,593 10 9	3,24,104 12 3
COMPARISON.							
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,03,957	1,65,378 4 9	15,159 13 7	7,13,311 20	3,98,123 14 7	36,494 13 10	51,054 7 5
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	146 3 7	13 8 1	.....	352 0 2	32 5 4	45 13 5
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	5,40,767	9,34,304 13 4	85,644 12 2	38,21,688 10	20,88,897 4 2	1,91,482 5 0	2,77,126 17 2

* Rs. 16,641-12-0 added as East Indian Railway proportion of two troops trains from Loodiana to Jubbulpore run on 2nd and 3rd January 1870.
† Rs. 2,845-3-6 added on account of freight of locomotive coal carried on Jubbulpore line.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY JUBBULPORE LINE.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 6th February 1870 on 223 miles open.

	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	5,924	*23,090 8 6	2,116 12 8	52,107 20	11,671 11 9	3,186 10 10
Or per mile of Railway ...	103 8 9	9 9 10	52 5 5	4 15 11	14 5 9	
For previous 4 weeks of half-year ...	30,262	93,845 12 4	8,602 10 7	1,71,952 30	46,419 4 0	12,857 12 6
Total for 5 weeks ...	36,187	1,16,936 4 10	10,719 3 3	2,24,060 10	58,096 15 9	16,044 3 4
COMPARISON.			*		*	
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	3,566	9,453 10 10	866 11 9	63,611 20	18,094 2 2	2,525 4 4
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	42 6 3	3 17 9	.....	81 2 3	11 6 6
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	21,803	68,937 1 3	6,319 4 9	2,94,654 10	84,270 3 11	14,044 0 1

* Rs. 9,407-13 added as Jubbulpore line proportion of special trains from Loodiana to Jubbulpore run in W. E. 9th January 1870.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 5th February 1870 on 113½ miles open.

	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. Srs.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	24,769	16,125 7 9	1,478 3 5	1,12,806 0	14,120 7 3	1,294 7 6
Or per mile of Railway ...	218	142 6 3	13 1 1	996 3	124 10 11	11 8 7
For previous 5 weeks of half-year ...	1,22,187	86,686 8 9	7,946 5 3	3,77,894 0	59,523 6 3	5,456 6 3
Total for 6 weeks ...	1,46,896	1,02,812 0 6	9,424 8 8	4,90,700 0	73,643 18 6	6,750 13 9
COMPARISON.						
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	26,554	18,845 2 8	1,727 9 6	1,04,888 9	20,212 10 3	1,852 16 6
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	235	166 6 5	15 5 1	926 7	178 7 8	16 7 3
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,36,162	88,604 2 10	8,122 1 0	5,24,503 8	97,287 2 10	8,917 19 10

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH-EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for Week ended 5th February 1870 on 28 miles open.

	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	Mds. S.	Rs. As. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total Traffic for the week ...	4,855	1,070 12 9	98 3 2	13,265 20	423 14 6	38 17 2
Or per mile of Railway ...	173	33 3 11	3 10 1	474 0	15 2 3	1 7 9
For previous 5 weeks of half-year ...	24,984	4,207 13 9	385 14 4	52,073 26	1,668 12 3	152 19 6
Total for 6 weeks ...	29,839	5,278 10 6	483 17 6	65,339 6	2,092 10 9	191 16 8
COMPARISON.						
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	5,271	1,136 6 11	103 12 5	18,284 0	912 15 9	83 13 10
Per mile of Railway corresponding week of previous year ...	168	40 6 0	3 14 0	653 0	32 9 8	2 19 10
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	30,173	6,050 14 11	554 15 3	66,570 26	3,184 1 3	291 17 6

Eastern Bengal Railway's proportion for this week has been deducted from the above.



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1870.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT, separately, on payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or twelve Rupees if sent by Post.

Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations.

Saturday, the 19th February 1870.

Present:

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, *Presiding.*

T. H. COWIE, Esq., *Advocate-General,*
THE HON'BLE ASHLEY EDEN,
A. MONEY, Esq., C.B.,
A. R. THOMPSON, Esq.,
V. H. SCHALCH, Esq.,
H. H. SUTHERLAND, Esq.,

RAJAH SATYANUND GHOSAL,
BABOO CHUNDER MOHUN CHATTERJEE,
T. M. ROBINSON, Esq.,
F. F. WYMAN, Esq.,
AND
BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE.

CALCUTTA WATER-RATE.

Before bringing forward the motion that the Bill to empower the Justices of the Peace for the town of Calcutta to levy a water-rate be passed, Mr. Schalch moved that the Bill be reconsidered for the purpose of making some proposed verbal amendments therein.

The motion having been agreed to, verbal amendments were made in Sections 8 and 9, and, on the motion of Mr. Schalch, the Bill was then passed.

COURT OF WARDS.

MR. MONEY moved that the report of the select committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the court of wards within the provinces under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal be further considered, in order to the settlement of the clauses of the Bill.

The motion was agreed to.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE moved the following amendment in the postponed Section 26, the grounds of which he said he had stated at a previous meeting:—

"Provided always that when a guardian shall have been appointed by the will of the person to whose estate the ward may have succeeded, such person shall be appointed guardian by the court, unless the board of revenue, after a report received from the court of wards, and after calling on the testamentary guardian to show cause why the testamentary provision should not be set aside, consider him disqualified or unfit."

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he approved the principle of the amendment moved, but it occurred to him that there might with advantage be introduced certain alterations in the wording, rendered necessary inasmuch as the question of guardianship had reference not to the estate but to the person of the minor. He would therefore move that the proviso stand thus:—

"Provided always that when a guardian of any minor ward shall have been appointed by will, such person shall be appointed guardian by the court, unless the board of revenue, after a report received from the court, and after calling on the testamentary guardian to show cause, shall consider him disqualified or unfit."

The motion was carried, and the Section as amended agreed to.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that the amendments he had on the paper had for their object the alteration of the Bill as it stood, so as to avoid a difficulty which appeared to be becoming more and more a practical difficulty, that was to say the limitation imposed on the legislative power of this council as regards the passing of enactments affecting directly or indirectly the jurisdiction of the high courts; the Act of Parliament establishing the high courts, and the consequent charters, being passed subsequently to the passing of the Indian Councils' Act. The amendments which he was about to propose were not, even to his own mind, entirely satisfactory, because it was not satisfactory that the power of the court of wards should be limited as regards the estates of infants personally subject to the jurisdiction of the high court by reason of their being resident in Calcutta, or by reason of their being European British subjects residing out of Calcutta. As to the state of the law, that was to say as regards the Acts on the subject of the jurisdiction of the high court with regard to lunatics and idiots, there was no doubt; and indeed as regards lunatics subject to the jurisdiction of the high courts, the sections he proposed to introduce were substantially a repetition of the existing law, under which, even although the high court should, under a commission issued, pronounce a person subject to its jurisdiction to be a lunatic, still the court of wards might assume the management of such portions of the lunatic's estate as were situate without the local limits of the high court's jurisdiction.

But as regards infants, the subject matter as it stood, and with reference to a Bill like the present introduced in the council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, was somewhat different. Under Act XL of 1858, which had reference to the appointment of guardians of infants, the matter was easily disposed of by a clause at the end of that Act, which enacted that nothing contained in the Act should be held to affect the powers of the supreme court over the person or property of any minor subject to its jurisdiction. But this council could not interfere with the jurisdiction of the high court, and therefore instead of a clause of that nature, we must substantively provide for the matter. The only mode appeared to be to exclude from the general operation of the Bill persons who were subject to the jurisdiction, in matters of infancy or lunacy, of the high court, and as regards lunatics to follow the provisions contained in Act XXXIV of 1858 with regard to the supreme court's jurisdiction in lunacy, and also to provide, subject to the orders of the high court, that the management of the estates of infants might be taken charge of by the court under this Act. He (the Advocate-General) would therefore first propose to insert in Section 2, which was the general governing section of the Act, showing who were the persons to become subject to the jurisdiction of the court of wards, after "proprietors of estates" in line 1, the words "(other than proprietors who are subject to the jurisdiction as respects infants and lunatics of a high court)," and in section 21, which had reference to inquiries in the case of minors, to insert after "proprietor" in line 1, the words "who is not subject to the jurisdiction as respects infants of a high court of judicature;" and then in Section 23, which related to persons deemed disqualified on the ground of idiocy or lunacy, to insert after "proprietor" in line 1, the words "who is not subject to the jurisdiction in lunacy of any or either of the high courts of judicature."

He next proposed to introduce two new sections after Section 23, first one to the effect that if a person had been found by the high court under the Act of 1858 to be of unsound mind, the court should take charge of the estate and lands of such person, and that the surplus income, after the payment of the general revenue and the expenses of management, should be disposed of from time to time in such manner as the said high court shall direct. That was neither more nor less than a repetition of the existing law with regard to lunatics found so under a commission issued from the high court. It was merely a repetition of what was contained in Act XXXIV of 1858, so that the whole subject might be contained in one and the same enactment. That section had reference to persons found lunatics by the high court.

Then he proposed to introduce a section applicable to a case which might not unfrequently occur where a lunatic proprietor was not within the provinces subject to the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and had not been found lunatic by any high court. He proposed to provide for the case of such persons resident beyond the provinces subject to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, which came under the provisions of Act XXXV of 1858, relating to the civil courts; the jurisdiction under Act XXXIV of 1858, being confined to the high court: in the proposed section, therefore, he only substituted "civil court" for "high court" in the previous section.

The same alteration which was proposed to be made in Sections 2, 21, and 23 would require to be made in Section 24, and in line 4 of the same section there would be a slight alteration rendered necessary in consequence of the amendment proposed to be made in the beginning of the section with reference to the form of procedure in enquiries instituted under the section. He proposed to insert "other than unsoundness of mind" after "on the ground of some natural or acquired defect or infirmity." And then, after that, he proposed to introduce a section relating to the case of a person resident within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the high court, or beyond the provinces under the control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who was disqualified by reason of some defect other than unsoundness of mind. The

necessity for that was that no defect other than that of unsoundness of mind would be recognized by the high court as a subject of enquiry: any such consideration as blindness or anything of that kind would not form a ground on which the high court would exercise any jurisdiction to appoint a manager of the estate, at least without a regular suit, which was of course another matter, and with which this council did not in any way interfere by the Bill.

He had endeavoured to state generally the scope of the sections he had drawn.* But the subject was one of a good deal of difficulty, and he was not at all satisfied that in this respect the Bill was all that it should be; but having regard to the legal bearings of the subject, and the limitation of the power of the council as regards the jurisdiction of the high court, there appeared to be no other way of settling the question.

On the motion of the Advocate-General the following amendments were then made:—

In Section II, line 1, after "estate," the words "other than proprietors who are subject to the jurisdiction as respects infants and lunatics of a high court," were inserted.

In Section XXI, line 1, after "proprietor," the words "who is not subject to the jurisdiction as respects infants of a high court of judicature," were inserted.

In Section XXIII, line 1, after "proprietor," the words "who is not subject to the jurisdiction in lunacy of any or either of the high courts of judicature established by royal charter," were inserted.

The following sections were introduced after Section XXIII:—

XXIIIA. "If a proprietor shall under the provisions of Act XXXIV of 1858 of the late legislative council of India have been found by any high court of judicature to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, the court may (subject to the powers of the high court under the said Act XXXIV of 1858) take charge of the estate and lands of such proprietor situate beyond the local limits aforesaid and deal with the same subject to the provisions of this Act. Provided that in such case no further proceedings shall be taken under the last preceding section, nor shall it be competent to the court to appoint a guardian of the person of the said proprietor. Provided also that the surplus income of the property so taken charge of by the court, after providing for the discharge of the government revenue and the expenses of management, shall be disposed of from time to time in such manner as the said high court shall direct, and not otherwise."

XXIIIB. "When a proprietor resident beyond the provinces subject to the government of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal shall by a civil court of competent jurisdiction, under the provisions of Act XXXV of 1858 of the late legislative council of India, have been declared to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his own affairs, the court may take charge of the estate and lands of such proprietor situate within the said provinces and deal with the same subject to the provisions of this Act. Provided that in such case no further proceedings shall be taken under Section XXIII of this Act, nor shall it be competent to the court to appoint a guardian of the person of the said proprietor. Provided also that the surplus income of the property so taken charge of by the court, after providing for the discharge of the government revenue and the expenses of management, shall be disposed of from time to time in such manner as the said civil court shall direct, and not otherwise."

In Section XXIV, line 1, after "proprietor," the words "resident without the local limits of the jurisdiction of the high court," were inserted.

In line 4 of the same section after "infirmity," the words "other than unsoundness of mind," were inserted.

The words "when any enquiry is instituted before a civil court under Section XXIII or Section XXIV of this Act," were prefixed to Section XXV."

The following section was introduced after Section XXIV:—

XXIV.A. "If a proprietor resident within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the high court of judicature at Fort William in Bengal or resident beyond the provinces subject to the government of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, shall be reported by a collector to be disqualified by reason of some natural or acquired defect or infirmity other than unsoundness of mind, the court within whose division the estate or lands of such proprietor are situate shall order the collector making such report to apply to the civil court of the 24-Pergunnahs or to such other civil court as the Lieutenant-Governor on application made to him by the collector in that behalf may determine. Such civil court shall thereupon enquire into, and determine, the question as to the alleged disqualification, and the provisions of Sections IV, VII, and XXII of the said Act XXXV of 1858 shall apply to such enquiry."

The postponed Section 30 was agreed to.

The postponed Section 36 was passed with slight amendments.

The postponed Section 49 provided that except the mother of a ward, no person who can succeed to the estate of a ward should be appointed guardian.

MR. MONEY said that the existing law contained in Section 21, Regulation X of 1793, barred the appointment of a person who was the legal heir or other person interested in outliving the ward. But the principle of that exclusion had now been thrown out by the council by the amendment made in Section 26 of the Bill. He would therefore move that after the words "provided, however, that this section shall not apply to the mother of a ward," be added "or to a testamentary guardian appointed under Section 26."

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that with reference to this section, in connection with Section 26, the addition proposed would not practically vary the policy of the law as contained in the existing regulations, because although if this addition was made there would not be an absolute disqualification of any person who would be the legal heir or otherwise interested in outliving the ward, still under Section 49 it would be competent for the Board of Revenue to take that matter into consideration when they were considering the question whether the testamentary guardian should be appointed.

MR. MONEY's motion was then carried, and the section as amended was agreed to.

The postponed Section 50 related to the mode of appointing guardians.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE moved the insertion, after the word "ward" in line 6, of the following proviso:—

"Provided also that none but a person of the same religion, if hindoo or mahomedan, shall, except in the case of a testamentary guardian, be appointed guardian of a female ward, preference being given to female relatives if any such be eligible."

He said that it was very necessary that the female guardian should be permanently domiciled with a female ward, particularly if she happened to be of a tender age. Now it must be observed that nothing could be more repugnant to the feelings of a hindoo than that a person of a different religious persuasion should live with the family; and none could be more acceptable as an inmate of a house than a relative, however distantly she might be connected. Although he confessed he knew of no instance in which any but a hindoo had been appointed guardian of a Hindoo female ward, still he thought it desirable that this principle should be recognized by the legislature.

The motion was carried and the section as amended agreed to.

The postponed Sections 51, 53, and 54 were agreed to.

The postponed Section 55 was agreed to with a slight change in the wording of the proviso at the end of the section, made on the motion of MR. MONEY.

The postponed Sections 56 and 57 were agreed to.

The postponed Section 66 provided that no adoption by a ward without the consent of the Lieutenant-Governor should be deemed valid.

MR. MONEY said that in this section there had been no regular amendment proposed. The question was raised as to whether or not the exclusion of the power of a ward to adopt between the ages of 16 and 18 was in accordance with the existing law. The section stood over for consideration as to how the law applied. The chief ruling on the subject was one of a full bench of the high court in the case of *Madhusudan Manji versus Debigobinda Newgi*, 1, Ben. L. R. F. B. 49, in which it was ruled, according to the law as it at present stood, that the minority of a hindoo in all cases extended to the age of 18. The question then would be whether a minor had under the law any power to adopt. On this point an opinion was given by the late Baboo Prosonno Coomar Tagore that a Hindoo minor was incompetent to adopt. The section of the Bill under consideration simply re-enacted the law as it stood since 1793; therefore he (Mr. Money) saw no reason to consider how far the question was affected by the hindoo law. The law as it present stood was contained in Regulation X of 1793, Section 23, which was as follows:—

"No adoption by disqualified landholders is to be deemed valid without the previous consent of the court of wards, on application made to them through the collector."

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOMUN TAGORE said he would ask what necessity there was for retaining this section of the Bill if before the age of 18 no adoption can be valid.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that he would vote for retaining the section because it would avoid the raising of a question which could not be considered absolutely settled in its most general shape, that was to say the age of majority of a Hindoo. He was not speaking as to the age of majority as regards the jurisdiction and superintendence of the Court of Wards, which had been fixed at the age of 18. But it would be a different question whether adoption by wards under the age of 18 but over the age of 16, as regards the jurisdiction of the Court of Wards, might or might not be valid. He thought, therefore, that it would be best to keep the section, because the question in its broader shape, whether a Hindoo did for any purpose become of age at the age of 16, had not been conclusively determined.

MR. MONEY said that the section they were considering did not apply to minor wards only, but to *any* ward.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE said that in that case an *onoomotee potro* or power to adopt should be included. A ward might suddenly be taken ill, and leave no time to obtain the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor to adopt a successor; but he might leave a power to his widow to adopt, and therefore an *onoomotee potro* should also be made valid.

On the motion of the ADVOCATE-GENERAL a written or verbal power to adopt was included in the section, and the section as amended was then agreed to.

The postponed Section 69 related to the procedure to be adopted on the termination of wardship.

THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said that this section stood over for discussion as to the case of an estate ceasing to belong to a disqualified proprietor by reason of his coming of age, and it was suggested that it would be more convenient and desirable that the order for the termination of the jurisdiction and superintendence of the court of wards should be given, so that the expiration of the time prescribed by the section should be conterminous with the conclusion of the majority. On consideration it did not seem to him (the Advocate-General) necessary to make any alteration in the section, because under the section the order might be made at any time.

The section was then agreed to.

Sections 70 and 71 were agreed to.

Section 72 authorized the Court of Wards, if within one year of the decease of a ward the succession to whose property was in dispute, no suit was instituted to determine the right to the property, to make over the property to any claimant thereof, or with the sanction of the Board of Revenue to sell the estate, and to hold the proceeds in trust for the person who may be entitled thereto.

BABOO JOTEENDRO MOHUN TAGORE moved an amendment to the effect that the sanction of the Board of Revenue should be obtained before the Court of Wards made over the estate to any claimant. He said that when it was proposed to give such a discretionary power to the court, it was but necessary that there should be some safeguard provided. Before

making over the property to any claimant without any judicial decision, the sanction of the Board of Revenue should be obtained.

The motion was carried, and the section was agreed to after a verbal amendment made on the motion of the Advocate-General.

Sections 73 to 77 were agreed to. ¶

In section 78 a clerical error was corrected, and the further consideration of the section and of the Bill was then postponed.

The council was adjourned to Saturday, the 26th instant.

Passage of Pilgrims through the Rajshahye Division.

From C. E. LANCE, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 4, dated Berhampore, the 4th January 1870.)

I HAVE the honor to forward the accompanying copies of the letter noted in the margin, and to request the favor of the Lieutenant-Governor's sanction to the entertainment of a native doctor in order to afford additional aid to the sick amongst the pilgrims who will travel through the Rajshahye district to bathe in the Ganges.

2. The gathering will be unusually large this year; and as the first bathing takes place on the 17th instant, the entertainment of the native doctor has been sanctioned in anticipation of the orders of Government.

3. An advance of Rs. 50 has also been sanctioned for the cost of conveying the sick to the nearest hospitals, and the magistrate will advance further, should it be necessary to do so.

From W. L. HEELEY, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Rajshahye, to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division,—(No. 172, dated Beauleah, the 29th December 1869.)

WITH reference to this office No. 169, dated 20th instant, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of a letter from the civil assistant surgeon, No. 150F., dated 16th idem, together with the enclosure, and to request that you will obtain the sanction of Government to the entertainment of a native doctor with as little delay as possible.

2. The gathering will be large, and I am afraid the sanction will not be obtained in time, as the next bathing takes place on the 17th proximo. I have therefore, in accordance to paragraph 1 of Government order No. 2044, dated 27th Commissioner's No. 565N., dated the 6th April 1868, requested the civil surgeon to entertain the extra May 1868. medical aid in anticipation of the orders of Government.

3. I have, in anticipation of your sanction, advanced from the magistrate "permanent advance" Rs. 50 to the district superintendent as requested in his letter No. 547, dated 18th instant, (copy annexed for information), and, if required, I shall be prepared to advance a further sum.

From E. C. BENSLEY, Esq., Civil Assistant Surgeon of Rajshahye, to the Magistrate of Rajshahye,—(No. 150F., dated Beauleah, the 16th December 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to forward in original a letter from the deputy inspector-general of hospitals, presidency circle, to whom I had written for the services of a native doctor, to afford medical aid to those of the pilgrims to Moorshedabad who may need it. You will see he suggests that the civil authorities should apply to the Lieutenant-Governor for a native doctor, and I trust you will lose no time in making an application, as it is desirable that the native doctor should be at his post early in the second week of January.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division,—(No. 145, dated Fort William, the 12th January 1870.)

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4, dated 4th instant, and in reply to say that the Lieutenant-Governor confirms the sanction accorded by you to the employment of a native doctor for the purpose of affording medical relief to the pilgrims travelling through the district of Rajshahye during the ensuing bathing festival at Moorshedabad.

2. His Honor also approves of your action in having sanctioned an advance of Rs. 50 for conveying the sick pilgrims to the nearest hospitals.

3. I am to request that, after the bathing festival is over, you will be good enough to favor the Lieutenant-Governor with a report on the subject, with special reference to these precautionary measures, and their effect.

From C. E. LANCE, Esq., Officiating Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 42, dated Berhampore, the 4th February 1870.)

In reply to your letter No. 145, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honor to forward the accompanying copies of a letter No. 14Ct., dated the 30th ultimo, from the magistrate of Rajshahye, with enclosure, showing the progress of pilgrims through the district, though they were unusually numerous this year, has not been attended by any outbreak of disease.

2. This may, no doubt, be attributed in some degree to the precautionary measures which were taken; and the district officers deserve credit for the success of their judicious arrangements.

From W. L. HEELEY, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Rajshahye, to the Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division,—(No. 11Ct., dated Nattore, the 30th January 1870.)

With reference to your memorandum No. 9 of 20th instant, forwarding the Government letter No. 145, dated 12th instant, I have the honor to refer you to my letter No. 2C, of the 12th January, for an account of the measures adopted by me in concurrence with the district superintendent and the civil surgeon to provide for the safe transit of the pilgrims.

2. The day after I wrote that letter, an immense number of pilgrims, as far as I could guess, about 5,000, passed me on the road, and the total number has proved to be much larger than I then anticipated.

3. I have now to report that the measures adopted have been entirely successful. No inconvenience whatever has attended the passing of the pilgrims through the district. As I was not in the station at the time of their return, I requested Mr. Norman, the joint-magistrate, to give his serious attention to the subject, and that gentleman's letter, No. 72 of 27th instant, will show that he has done so with good effect.

4. I was at Nattore at the time when the pilgrims returned: here precautions were adopted similar to those at Beauleah, the pilgrims not being allowed to enter the town. Two cases of cholera occurred among the returning pilgrims—one at Digaputea, two miles eastwards of Nattore, and one at Buxar, a mile or two still farther. Both cases were treated by the native doctor in charge of the dispensary at Nattore, but both terminated fatally. One of the persons who died was an old man of 80. These, with the fatal fever case mentioned by the joint-magistrate, make up the sum total of casualties, which I think is very small, considering the large number of pilgrims. The time of the year was favorable, and the district is generally in a healthy state.

5. I trust you will bring to the notice of Government the efficient aid I have received from all concerned, and specially the readiness and energy of the district superintendent of police.

From T. NORMAN, Esq., Officiating Joint-Magistrate of Rajshahye, to the Magistrate of Rajshahye,—(No. 72, dated Beauleah, the 27th January 1870.)

With reference to your memorandum No. 754, dated the 9th ultimo, directing me to supervise the carrying out of your instructions with reference to the pilgrimage, I have the honor to report the result of the measures taken.

The pilgrims having passed in safety by the roads marked out for them, began to appear on their return journey on the 18th instant. The arrangements made for passing them continued the same for their re-passage. The native doctor, compounder, constables and chowkeydars remained at their posts, and the hospital tents remained at Kodalkali Ghât and at Kapashin. The only change made was that, instead of allowing those who landed at Kodalkali to pass along the new embankment, through Nowabgunge, the principal native residents of that place having remonstrated on the subject, I had them conducted, through the plain opposite the ferry, to a point on the road north of the cutcherries. About 14,000 passed west and north of the station by this route; about 4,000 landed at the Gabtoli Ghât, east of the station, and joined the main body at Talaimaree on the Nattore road; about 5,000 passed the station by water. Tallies were kept by constables told off at the ghâts. The bulk of the returning pilgrims passed the station on the 19th, 20th and 21st. On the 23rd only a few stragglers were to be seen. The district superintendent and I were daily out supervising the arrangements, and I received the greatest assistance from that officer.

3. I have the pleasure to report that not a single case of cholera has occurred. The hospital tents were in fact never used except in the case of one old woman, who died of chronic fever at the Kodalkali Ghât. The head constable, who patrolled the whole line of road from Beauleah to Singra police station, twelve miles north-east of Nattore, starting on the 13th and returning on the 23rd, reports that no sickness whatever occurred among the pilgrims.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, to the Officiating Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division,—(No. 665, dated Fort William, the 22nd February 1870.)

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 42 of the 4th February current, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to learn that, owing to the precautionary measures adopted, the progress of the pilgrims passing through the Rajshahye division, during last bathing season, has been unattended by any outbreak of disease.

Report on the cultivation of Cinchona at Darjeeling for the month of January 1870.

From C. B. CLARKE, Esq., M.A., Officiating Superintendent, Botanical Gardens, and in charge of Cinchona cultivation in Bengal, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the General Department.—(No. 164, dated Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, the 9th February 1870.)

I BEG leave to submit, herewith, report of Cinchona plantations near Darjeeling for the month of January 1870.

Report on the cultivation of Cinchona at Darjeeling for the month of January 1870.

The month of January has been without rain: the season is that of vegetative rest, but *C. Succirubra* still keeps perceptibly moving.

Besides the ordinary plantation work, the coolies have been employed in removing the lower branches of the older trees and in thinning experimentally two acres of the thick plantation, and in stripping the bark from such prunings and thinnings. During the month 1,300 lbs. of wet bark, equivalent to 400 lbs. dry or thereabout, has been taken off.

From the seed received in November last from Java, named *C. Calisaya, vera, Weddelii*, 9,500 young plants have been removed from the store-houses to the nursery beds. The seed received lately from Java, named *C. Lancifolia*, has germinated. A quarter of an ounce of *C. Calisaya* seed, of the quality of this Java seed, not only gives us 10,000 seedlings which it would cost much money to raise by cuttings, but it gives us the young plants at once.

There has been supplied to Dr. Jameson of the Botanic Garden, Saharunpore—

Of <i>C. Succirubra</i>	...	...	1,500 plants.
Of <i>C. Officinalis</i>	...	...	500 "
Of <i>C. Calisaya</i>	...	...	260 "

Table shewing the temperature of the month at the different plantations.

PLANTATIONS.	Mean maximum.	Mean minimum.	Mean temperature.	REMARKS.
2nd plantation	... Thermometer out of order.	41.23		
4th ditto	... Ditto	48.48		
Rishap ditto	73.8	49.7	61.7	

Table shewing the maximum and minimum growth during the month of January 1870.

NAMES OF SPECIES.	TEESTA.		RISHAP.	RUNGBEE.	
	First plantation.	Second plantation.	Third plantation.	Fourth plantation.	Fifth plantation.
<i>C. Succirubra</i> ...	Not measured.	Not measured.	1 to 2 ins.	1 to 2 ins.	1 to 2 ins.
<i>C. Micrantha</i> ...	Ditto	Ditto	1 inch.	1 to 2 "	1 to 2 "
<i>C. Officinalis</i> ...	Ditto	Ditto	Not measured.	None.	Not measured.
<i>C. Calisaya</i> ...	Ditto	Ditto	1 to 4 ins.	1 inch.	1 inch.

Table shewing the number and distribution of Cinchona plants in the Government plantations at Darjeeling on the 1st February 1870.

Names of species of Cinchona.	Number in permanent plantations.	Number of stock plants for propagation.	Number of seedlings or rooted cuttings in nursery beds for permanent plantations.	Number of rooted plants in cutting beds.	Number of cuttings made during the month.	Total number of plants, cuttings, and seedlings.
<i>C. Succirubra</i> ...	10,02,100	20,000	2,17,615	None.	None.	12,39,715
<i>C. Calisaya</i> ...	2,330	10,000	7,128	*31,574	,"	51,032
<i>C. Micrantha</i> ...	29,667	None.	None.	None.	,"	29,667
<i>C. Officinalis</i> , and varieties ...	4,06,899	10,000	2,05,952	3,07,853	,"	9,30,704
<i>C. Pahudiana</i> ...	5,092	None.	None.	None.	,"	5,092
Total ...	14,46,088	40,000	4,30,695	3,39,427	None.	22,56,210

* 9,500 seedlings have been added.

RUNGBEE,
The 1st February 1870: } J. GAMMIE,
"Head Gardener in charge, Cinchona plantations, Darjeeling.

TABLE shewing the growth of *Cinchonas* in the Darjeeling plantations during the month of January 1870.

Names.	Numbers.	1st PLANTATION (TESTA), ALTITUDE 900 FEET.		2nd PLANTATION (TESTA), ALTITUDE 450 FEET.		3rd PLANTATION (RISHAP), ALTITUDE 2,000 FEET.		4th PLANTATION (RISHAP), ALTITUDE 3,332 FEET.		5th PLANTATION (RUNGBER), ALTITUDE 2,656 FEET.	
		Date of Planting,	Height in inches on 1st	Date of Planting,	Height in inches on 1st	Date of Planting,	Height in inches on 1st	Date of Planting,	Height in inches on 1st	Date of Planting,	Height in inches on 1st
C. Succinibrina	1	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	2	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	3	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	4	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	5	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	6	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	7	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	8	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	9	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	10	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
C. Micrantha	1	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	2	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	3	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	4	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	5	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	6	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	7	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	8	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	9	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	10	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
C. Officialis	1	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	2	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	3	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	4	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	5	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	6	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	7	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	8	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	9	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
Ditto	10	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111	1864.	111
C. Callosa...	1	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	2	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	3	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	4	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	5	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	6	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	7	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	8	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	9	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111
Ditto	10	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111	1867.	111

• Heighton 1st January 1809.

C. B. CLARKE,

*Officiating Superintendent, Botanical Gardens,
and in charge of Cinchona cultivation in Bengal.*

Report on the State of the Salt Market for the Third Quarter of 1869-70.

From R. L. MANGLES, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Revenue Department, (No. 74C, dated Fort William, the 12th February 1870.)

I AM directed by the Board of Revenue to submit the following report on the state of the salt market for the third quarter of 1869-70, comprising the months of October, November, and December last.

2. The quantity of Government salt sold at the Presidency under wholesale rowannahs amounted to maunds 4,914, as shewn on the margin, giving a monthly average of maunds 1,638 against maunds 1,801 in the preceding quarter. The sales, as in preceding four quarters, were confined to the Hidgellee stocks, the decrease being attributable to the exhaustion of the stocks at some of the ghâts.

3. The sales of Government salt at Pooree amounted to maunds 31,363,* against maunds 72,818 in the preceding quarter, and maunds 31,990 in the corresponding quarter of 1868-69. The decrease in the quarter under review is explained by the collector to be owing to the exhaustion of the stocks of Kurkutteh at the several aurungs; the Pungah salt not being in great demand, as the people are supplied by traders with the former description of salt.

4. The quantities of excise salt sold in Cuttack, Balasore, and the 24-Pergunnahs, from the stocks manufactured in 1867-68 and 1868-69, and the quantities remaining in store at the close of the quarter, are shewn in the following statement:—

	CUTTACK.			BALASORE.			24-PERGUNNAHS.	
	MANUFACTURE OF			MANUFACTURE OF			MANUFACTURE OF	
	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1866-67.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.	1868-69.
Balance at close of last quarter	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.
Manufactured during the quarter	5,754 35	7,985 37	...	500 10	23,906 35	63,872 24	...	5,750 0
Surplus	101 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	257 5
Total	5,856 10	7,985 37	...	500 10	23,906 35	63,872 24	...	5,750 0
DEDUCT—								
Quantity sold during the quarter	5,710 0	6,375 0	...	...	7,595 7½	15,193 10	...	5,300 0
Deficiency or wastage	...	...	...	455 20	...	...	...	...
Total	5,710 0	6,375 0	...	455 20	7,595 7½	15,193 10	...	5,300 0
Balance at close of quarter	146 10	1,610 37	...	44 30	16,311 27½	48,679 14	...	450 0
								257 5

It will be seen that the total clearances of excise salt during the quarter amounted to maunds 40,173, against maunds 38,210 in the previous quarter, and maunds 30,760 in the corresponding quarter of 1868-69.

5. The subjoined statement shews comparatively the total importations into the port of Calcutta, and the clearances of sea-imported salt during the quarter, and the corresponding quarter of the two preceding years:—

Description of Salt.	3RD QUARTER OF 1867-68.		3RD QUARTER OF 1868-69.		3RD QUARTER OF 1869-70.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Pungah	14,82,289	10,32,802	16,59,086	15,15,683	9,18,586	13,98,412
Foreign Kurkutteh	2,89,480	1,85,479	2,35,714	1,97,743	3,53,003	2,55,173
Indian Kurkutteh	68,906	57,508	1,70,351	1,75,787	1,47,142	1,90,444
Ceylon Kurkutteh	15,272	10,100	24,690	18,436	...	3,260
Total	18,45,947	12,85,889	20,90,141	19,07,649	14,18,730	19,58,279

6. The following are the details of the Indian Kurkutch salt shewn above:—

Whence imported.	3RD QUARTER OF 1867-68.		3RD QUARTER OF 1868-69.		3RD QUARTER OF 1869-70.	
	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.	Imported.	Cleared.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Bombay	... 55,962	44,758	1,46,351	1,63,282	1,18,602	1,52,438
Madras	... ..	9,800	24,000	12,605	28,464	46,170
Ennore	... ..	....	....	....	....	896
Coconada	... 2,944	2,050	....	....	....	....
Covelong	... ..	....	....	....	76	....
Total	... 58,906	57,508	1,70,851	1,75,787	1,47,143	1,99,444

7. The following table shews the total quantity of sea-imported salt remaining in bond at the close of the quarter, as compared with the previous quarters of the year:—

Where stored.	First quarter of 1869-70.	Second quarter of 1869-70.	Third quarter of 1869-70.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Calcutta and Sulkea	... 22,63,411	23,93,667	21,67,945
Chittagong	... 2,14,233	1,55,562	1,35,698
Total	... 24,87,644	25,54,229	23,03,643

8. The following statement exhibits the despatches of salt from Calcutta by water *via* the several pass stations, and by means of the three Railways, into the interior of the country, both east and west of the river Hooghly, during the quarter under review, and the corresponding quarter of the two preceding years:—

	<i>Via</i> Ballikhal.	<i>Via</i> Sankrail.	<i>Via</i> Gowa-khalee.	<i>Via</i> Kidder-pore.	<i>Via</i> Ballia-ghatta.	By the East Indian Railway.	By the Eastern Bengal Railway.	By the Calcutta and S.E. Railway.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Third quarter of 1867-68 ...	4,19,946	1,14,528	1,11,949	1,01,116	6,46,861	2,52,538	12,870	83
Ditto 1868-69 ...	4,90,342	1,03,422	86,790	1,05,233	9,25,839	2,26,353	4,532	70
Ditto 1869-70 ...	4,55,869	1,15,840	86,051	92,714	8,35,166	3,35,570	12,320	16

The quantity of salt despatched by the East Indian Railway to stations beyond Buxar amounted to maunds 4,292-20, against maunds 4,176-10 in the preceding quarter, and maunds 423-20 only in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

9. The shipments of Liverpool salt for the ports of Calcutta and Chittagong, according to published market reports, were as follows:—

	Month.	Calcutta.	Chittagong.
		Tons.	Tons.
In October 1869	... ... ... ... ...	30,295	3,487
,, November	,,	18,969	....
,, December	,,	9,411	....
	Total ...	58,675	3,487

10. The prevailing market prices per hundred maunds of Liverpool and other descriptions of salt, at the close of each fortnight, during the quarter under report, as compared with those which obtained at the same period last year, are shewn in the following statement:—

Description of Salt.	Prices on 15th October		Prices on 31st October		Prices on 15th November		Prices on 30th November		Prices on 15th December		Prices on 31st December	
	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.	1868.	1869.
Liverpool Pungah	85	76	92	74	86	71	82	61	74	65	72	54
French Kurkutch	81	78	84	78	84	72	82	72	80	69	90	66
Jeddah ditto	87	78	86	80	88	79	90	78	96	79	98	79
Ceylon ditto	67	53	66	52	67	53	67	56	75	56	69	56
Scinde ditto	35	63	35	62	35	61	35	60	35	60	35	60
Bombay ditto	60	41	59	48	59	48	62	40	62	36	64	43
Madras ditto	36	46	36	58	85	57	76	58	72	57	72	58

11. The following statement exhibits the total quantities of salt that were available for the private export trade at the several depôts in the Madras Presidency on the first day of each of the three months constituting the present quarter and the corresponding quarters of 1867-68 and 1868-69:—

Month.	1867-68.	1868-69.	1869-70.
October	10,72,038	8,53,428	8,03,862
November	12,57,895	9,67,528	7,56,950
December	12,52,563	9,57,168	7,48,760

12. The following statement shews the quantities of sea-imported salt admitted into bond, and cleared from bond and ship-board at Chittagong, during the quarter under review and the corresponding quarter of 1868-69. No transactions in sea-imported salt have been reported during the quarter from Balasore:—

Description of salt.	ADMITTED INTO BOND.		CLEARANCES.	
	3rd quarter of 1868-69.	3rd quarter of 1869-70.	3rd quarter of 1868-69.	3rd quarter of 1869-70.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Liverpool Pungah	1,32,655	23,888	44,349	43,993
Madras Kurkutch	15,513	3,459	13,736	6,498
Total	1,48,168	27,347	58,085	50,491

Report on the Endemic Fever of Nuddea and Jessoro.

From D. B. SMITH, Esq., M.D., Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal, to W. H. RYLAND, Esq.,
Officiating Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 47, dated Calcutta,
the 29th January 1870.)

IN reply to your No. 240 of the 18th instant, and with reference to No. 774 of 16th
June 1869, I have the honour to submit the following remarks.

2. After sending in my report on the fever prevailing in the Hooghly district, in the
month of March last, I carefully visited all the places in the Nuddea and Jessoro districts
which are noted marginally.

Noaserai, Beespara, Gopalpore, Baghatty, Seejah, Damoordah,
Chogdah, Ranaghat, Oolah, Jeerut, Kailayaghur, Sheeripore,
Ballaghur, Chandra, Sookrea, Shumra, Bankipore, Santipore,
Culinah, Krishnaghur, Mehurpore, Bongong, Jessoro, Narail, Koo-
murgunge, Nuldee, Raegram, Luckepassha, Degaha, Khalya,
Koolnah, Senhatee, Dowlputpore, Afra.

discover, was not nearly so urgent as in zillah Hooghly; and again, because it was my intention to take up the subject in my annual report for 1869.

4. I recently received from the officiating

From magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs to commissioner, Presidency division, No. 434, dated 6th November 1869, with a map and a statement.

From magistrate of Nuddea to commissioner, Presidency division, No. 4056, dated 22nd November 1869, with nine maps, and correspondence from sub-divisional officers consisting of nine separate papers in letters and statements.

From magistrate of Jessoro to commissioner, Presidency division, No. 177G, dated 20th November 1869, with a map and a statement.

much value. This is, no doubt, chiefly due to the great difficulty of tracing out, at the present time, what happened amongst the different village populations so far back as eight or nine years ago.

7. I have indicated by pencil marks those parts of the reports which seem most worthy of perusal. I fear, however, that the information collected must be regarded as vague and unreliable.

8. I beg to submit the following remarks taken from my diary regarding the places which I personally visited.

9. At Noaserai I found measles prevailing rather severely; about 100 children had been attacked. The disease appeared about a month before the date of my visit. The people informed me that fever prevailed at this place most severely five or six years ago. Two or three hundred persons died in the village. Of late years there has been much less sickness.

10. At Baghatty the people were looking pretty well. A few deaths from cholera had occurred two months before.

11. At Seejah there was not much sickness. The people were busily at work, and they appeared to be tolerably healthy and happy. During the past year about forty deaths are said to have occurred. Measles prevailed, but the disease had accounted for no deaths.

12. At Damoordah the people reported that within the last five years about half the population of the place had been swept away by fever. At the time of my visit the general appearance of the people was not very bad. I saw about eighty persons who were suffering from chronic fever. The villagers here associate the prevalence of the fever with the formation of the *chur*, which has gradually appeared in the course of the Hooghly immediately opposite the village. There is a great deal of underwood at this place. My palkee could scarcely pass through it.

13. At Chogdah there was not much sickness when I went there. Fever chiefly prevailed five years ago. Dr. Elliot then visited the place. In March five persons had died; in February, 23; in January, 48. The water in the adjoining *khall* is about half the depth it was five years ago. A *chur* has formed within seven or eight years at Seebpore, two miles from Chogdah.

14. The people of Ranaghat were not very sickly; about 100 persons were ailing. The fever prevailed here with the greatest intensity three or four years ago. Cholera was epidemic three or four months before my visit.

15. Oollah formerly suffered very severely from fever. The people told me that it prevailed with the greatest severity in 1857-58 and 59. The population is said formerly to have been 10,000; it is now probably about 3,000. Upwards of 6,000 persons are supposed to have died within the last twelve years. During the past year not more than 200 died. At the time of my visit only three or four persons were dying monthly. Cholera prevailed two or three months before; and measles was prevalent when I was there. The Choornee nuddee passes within a mile of this place. The Barameshia *khall* adjoins the village on the south side. It has within the last thirty years been gradually drying up. Formerly there were several feet of water in it, now there are only a few inches. The zemindars send for their drinking water from the Hooghly; the poor people take their supply from tanks.

16. I called on Baboo Sree Gopaul Paul Chowdry. He informed me that whilst the surrounding villages had been unhealthy, Ranaghat had been healthy. It is higher than the surrounding country, and the drainage is good.

17. At Jeerut, Kailyaghar, Sheeripore, and Ballaghur the fever prevailed most about three years ago. Close to Ballaghur is a *khall* which passes in the direction of Shumra and Bankipore. It is known as the Bankipore *khall*. It has during the last five years been gradually silting up. The people consider that the chief causes of the fever were, obstructed drainage, choking up of the mouth of the *khall* with sand, and deterioration of the water-supply; also changes in the course of the Ganges, and the formation of *churs*.

18. At Paoolee, which is two miles from Ballaghur, cholera was prevailing in March. Nineteen deaths were reported.

19. Chandra is the continuation of Ballaghur. Like all other places about there, fever prevailed most severely from three to five years ago.

20. At Sookrea the people said that fever was due to the alteration in the course of the Ganges, which occurred about seven years ago. Since that time the disease is said to have prevailed more than before.

21. At Shumra I saw a native doctor called "Baboo Juggobundoo." He informed me that he had been educated at the Medical College, but that he had failed to pass. He was practising on his own account. His little dispensary was very clean and neat, and he seemed to take a true interest in his work. He inveighed against "native quacks," who starve their patients, adulterate bad quinine with soda, and give opium in the collapse of cholera! He told me he was treating a severe case of remittent fever, the subject of which had been brought very low by the *kobirajos*. He was giving pigeon soup, sago, stimulants, and quinine. I think it worth while to make special mention of this man. I only wish all our passed men took as much interest in their work as he does. He said to me "I am a plucked man, but I try to do my best!" And he really was doing very useful service to the people around him.

22. At Santipore fever is said to have prevailed most in 1866 and 1867. In December 1868 there were 111 deaths from cholera; in November, 50; and in October, 9. In 56 villages of *thannah* Santipore, in three months (*i.e.*, from 1st January 1869), 171 deaths were reported; the population being from 30,000 to 40,000. Of these, 75 deaths were from cholera.

23. At Culnah there was not much fever prevailing. Cholera was said to be the chief cause of mortality. It occurs every hot season. One hundred persons were said to have died in two months, shortly before the time of my visit.

24. Regarding Krishnaghur I have reported at considerable length in my annual report for 1868.

25. Meherpore is twenty-nine miles from Krishnaghur. Fever prevailed most in 1863-64-65. It was not severe at the time of my visit. In 1865 it began after unusually heavy rains, and the natives declare that a peculiar piercing wind then blew from the eastward. The people here are accustomed to attribute the fever to the formation of the very large *chur* which is found where the *Bhoirub naddie* leaves the *Jelinghee*, but it is more probably due to the condition of the Moorgunga *khall*. Zemindar "Breeja Kumar Mullick" informed me that there has never been any excessive sickness along the course of the *Bhoirub* from where it leaves the *Jelinghee*, except in the vicinity of Meherpore, and to the south and east of it, *i.e.*, to the south of the point where the Moorgunga *khall* is given off, the said *khall* being (as its name implies) an old one which is silting up. This is an observation worthy of note. The people drink the water of the river *Bhoirub*, not of the wells. The native doctor "Brija Lal Dass" informed me that all the water which he himself uses for drinking purposes is regularly drawn from the river on the tenth day of the moon, enough being taken at a time for eight or nine days. It is allowed to stand for two days before being used. There is not a single tank at Meherpore in use. Every one drinks the river water. Where villagers are at a distance from the river they drink the water of *bheels* and of wells. The average depth of well water from the surface is from twelve to eighteen *haths* (at a distance from the river); *i.e.*, from eighteen to twenty-four feet. The up-country constables at the lock-up informed me that they consider the water in the wells of Meherpore to be very good. The river (*Bhoirub*) is in a very bad state at Meherpore, dirty and almost choked up. It much requires deepening and clearing. The staking or impaling of corpses in the bed of the river is not uncommon at or near Meherpore. Measles had been prevailing for a month before my visit. The mortality from all causes reported to me was as follows: From 7th July to 31st December 1868, 61 deaths in forty villages; from 1st January to 13th April 1869, in the same number of villages, 53 deaths. These statistics are probably very incorrect, yet they serve to show, in a general way, that mortality was not high.

26. I need not here add to what has been written regarding Jessoore in my annual report for 1868.

27. Narail is twenty-two miles from Jessoore. I was kindly received there by W. G. Deare, Esq., the assistant magistrate. I called on the "Narail Baboos" (as they are called), the leading zemindars of the place. I also saw Mr. Anderson, the medical man whom they entertain. He informed me that no particular sickness was prevailing. At unhealthy seasons 40 to 80 out-door patients daily visit the dispensary which is kept up by the Narail Baboos. The place has latterly been exceedingly healthy. The rains ceased in September, and the

country was as dry in November as it usually is in February. Cholera prevailed in November and during the first week of December. It also appeared generally in March, but ceased suddenly. At Majoorah fever broke out in November 1864; it raged during December and January. This was after the silting up of the Joogni Bagni bheel. The sickness was great for eight miles below Majoorah. It was particularly severe at Benodpore and the places between it and Majoorah. I had a long conversation with Mr. Deave (who has had much experience in the district) as to the causes of the prevalence of fever. I enunciated my own opinions to him on the subject. He told me, at the time, that my views regarding the silting of water-courses coincided with a good deal that he had himself observed. I requested him to be good enough to let me have any notes corroborative of the opinions which I had expressed. Sometime afterwards he sent me the accompanying memorandum, which I beg to forward in original (marked N), as I consider the illustrations it contains very interesting.

28. From Narail I went on to *Gorakhallee* and *Nuldeo*; about 80 persons were suffering from fever at the latter place.

29. There was little or no sickness at *Koonturgunge*.

30. At *Raegram* I saw about 100 cases of spleen disease (chronic). A baboo appeared at this place who spoke English. He is anxious that the Government should fill up the bheels around, which are a mile broad, and extend for more than ten miles in length. The bheels are called the "Jatkee," "Ruhée," and "Echamuttee." The people want a cut made from the river Nobogunga, so as to flood the lands and silt them up. I went to the edge of the bheel, and also visited the village school. The people were more healthy than I expected. I was informed that during February and March cattle disease had been prevailing severely.

31. From *Raegram* I went on to *Luckepassā*; at the latter place I encountered a very severe storm on the evening of the 19th April. Wind from south-east. Luckepassā is a dirty, neglected place. Went to the school; 109 pupils in attendance. Went to the thannah, saw the sub-inspector; was told that in 156 villages around Luckepassā there were 650 deaths in 1868. The population being 12,690; 67 of the deaths were from cholera, the rest from fever and spleen. Since 1st January 1869, 150 deaths had occurred in the said villages; of these, 36 were caused by cholera, which disease also prevailed in October and November. The *Erenda* khall, two coss distant from Luckepassā, has silted up. The Nobogunga river has been silting during the last ten years. The people believe that the alterations in the depth of the water at *Kooshea* account for this river being affected. Cattle disease had been prevailing in the villages around. A great many cows had died. The epidemic was most severe in February and March. Much sickness appears to have occurred in the bazar opposite Luckepassā, called *Lohogara*.

32. At *Degalia* only 25 or 30 persons were suffering from fever, out of a population of about 1,000. About 20 or 25 are said to have died of fever during one year. Cattle disease was prevailing at *Maegram*.

33. It may here be noted that Narail is on the river Chitra. From *Raegram* to Luckepassā is the Nobogunga; from Luckepassā to *Khalyat* the Bankhana nuddee; after *Khalya* I again passed into the Chitra; from the Chitra into the Mulloa khall; and again into the Bhoirub.

34. *Khalya* has been very healthy for years. There was no fever to speak of, and but little cholera. The place is on the bank of the Kaligunga (tidal). The people drink the water of the river. About 120 pupils attend the school. There is a Government charitable dispensary. The people subscribe Rs. 40. a month, whilst Government supplies the doctor and the medicines. Baboo "Bishtoo Churn Goopto" from Cuttack was in charge.

35. From *Khalya* I went on to *Koolnah*. In this thannah there are 142 villages with a population of 67,294 souls (23,823 male adults, 30,760 female adults, 6,368 male children, 6,343 female children). From 1st April 1868 to 21st April 1869, the total mortality in the 142 villages was reported to me as 393 deaths. From 1st January to 21st April 1869, 56 deaths from cholera. In 1868 the deaths from cholera numbered 230. In 1867 a great deal of cholera and fever prevailed at *Lorai*, *Lohagara*, *Lukeepassā*, *Coochoobaree*, *Kashipore*, *Joypore*, and *Erenda*. In March and April 1868 cholera occurred at *Dhoomra*, *Atchgora*, *Shreefutola*, and *Botiegotta*.

Shortly before the date of my visit, the disease (cholera) had been prevailing in the following villages:—*Halatolah*, *Chogoriah*, *Hautbaree*, *Churkakoli*, *Joypore*, *Berniahbooniah*, *Fooltolah*, *Foolbaree*, *Julma*, *Beerat*, and *Rungamaree*.

36. From *Koolnah* I went to *Senhattee*. About one-fifth of the population were suffering from spleen disease. The water-supply of this place is very bad. The tanks are in a most neglected state, particularly the *Kobiraje pokur* and *Sircarjee's* tank. There was only about two feet of water in the former. In parts of the latter the vegetation is so thick that cattle can graze over it, still its waters are drawn by some of the villagers. Some of the jungle had been cut by order of the deputy magistrate, but it had not been removed. The village has the Chitra to the north of it. About four miles distant the Bhoirub on the west and south, and the Altai on the east (about two miles distant), all tidal streams. The people remarked to me: "the water of our tanks is like black blood." One baboo, speaking of what should be done, remarked—"A simple order will not do: we must have constraint, by which I mean force; such is the nature of our village." He meant to say that it would be a good

thing if the Government compelled the people to keep the entire village clean ; and that without such compulsion nothing would be done by them. The same baboo, pointing to a particular tank, said—" This is our best water," but he significantly added, " You may, on analysis, find it the worst," meaning that their highest standard was a very poor one after all.

Senhattee is a place which urgently requires to be improved ; it is wonderful to me that any persons residing in such a locality enjoy health. In December 1868 cholera prevailed here very badly. It continued for about 40 days. About 150 persons are said to have died in that time. Measles was prevailing at the time of my visit ; it appeared about two months before. The names of 75 pupils are on the village school roll ; the average attendance is about 57, the rest being on the sick list.

37. Senhattee is perhaps the most neglected and insalubrious place which I visited throughout my tour.

38. From Senhattee I went on to *Dowlutpore*, where there is a dispensary, under native doctor Prusumna Chunder Sen. Of the patients coming to the dispensary three-fourths are said to have enlarged spleens. The village school and the dispensary are in the same apartment. This seems to me a very objectionable arrangement. Near Dowlutpore is *Mohesharpassa*, which is said to be much in the same state as Senhattee, only more jungly, and on the whole worse. The native doctor expressed the opinion that the tanks of Senhattee are better than those of Mohesharpassa. It is hard to believe this possible. I was sorry I could not go to Mohesharpassa, but a storm was threatening, and I had to push on.

39. From Dowlutpore I went to *Afra*, and thence back to *Jessore*.

40. I returned to the Presidency on the 22nd April.

41. The above notes will serve to show that although I inspected numerous villages in different parts of the districts of Nuddea and Jessore, there was nothing like the amount of sickness anywhere prevailing that I had seen and reported on in zillah Hooghly.

From A. SMITH, Esq., Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahis, to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division,—(No. 434, dated Alipore, the 6th November 1869.)

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith the map and the tabular statement called for by your memorandum No. 12, dated the 26th May last.

2. It appears that epidemic fever has not prevailed to any appreciable extent in the sub-divisions of Diamond Harbour, Busseerhat, and Dum-Dum, and in the sunder sub-division during the period, 1860 to 1869, under consideration.

3. The map and the tabular statement give particulars regarding the action of the fever in the remaining sub-divisions.

Tabular statement showing the names of villages in the 24-Pergunnahs district which have suffered from epidemic fever, called for in Commissioner's memorandum No. 12, dated 26th May 1869.

Names of villages.	Population.	Birth.	Year in which disease commenced.	Description of disease.	Duration.	Degree of severity.	Mortality.	Situation of the villages in sanitary point of view.	Probable cause of their insanitary condition.	REMARKS.
Godkhali	Fever	1845-46	Sathkheerah (excluding its northern portion) is lying in a low marshy ground covered with jungle and interspersed with salt khans and bheels containing stagnant water.	Imperfect drainage in consequence of silting up of the rivers Kowball and others below Lubna.
Kholishkhali	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Magora	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Thodar	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Sathkheerah	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Sultampore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Luhsha	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Chundumpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...
Safisaha	Fever	1858-59	...	...	...	3 years		
Maipara	ditto	ditto	ditto	6 years
Baraset	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Mallepatah	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Masidnale	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Gbola	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Mohoomoosari	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Rejihunga	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Kattar	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Koda	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Moheslimpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Amsidanga	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Kamia	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Khamarpahar	ditto	ditto	ditto
Kehnia	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Dadpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Haira	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Banomnacora	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Nulkura	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Kallynapore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Kubbeerpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Kazepara	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Arckavak	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Banomnacore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Scalaspore	ditto	ditto	ditto
Kasimpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Natpal	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Napra	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Hangpore	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		
Seabian	ditto	ditto	...	...	...	ditto		

BARRACKPORE Sub-DIVISION.

— 3 — ПРЕДСТАВЛЯЮЩИЕ СОСТОЯНИЯ

This year there is but little fever in the Barrackpore sub-division. It has been suggested that the new water pipes across the culverts of the Barrackpore trunk road impede the drainage and thereby produce fever, but the great abatement of fever during the last two years does not support this theory.

Rank jungle, stagnant tanks, defective drainage, are the probable causes of insanitary condition of these villages, &c., &c.

SEALDAH SUB-DIVISION:

ENTALLY, . } }
The 23rd October 1869.

T. CAMPBELL,

Superintendent.

From J. MONRO, Esq., Magistrate of Nuddea, to the Commissioner of the Presidency Division,—(No. 4056, dated the 22nd November 1869.)

With reference to your No. 12, dated 26th May, on the subject of fever maps.

I submit the maps filled in as far as I can. They have not been previously submitted, because I waited, as directed, for the tracing from Jessore, which, however, has not up to date been received.

The records in my office do not enable me to give anything like a tabular statement such as is required, and as I have not a single officer now in the district who was in Nuddea when the fever broke out, I have no local or personal knowledge of circumstances to fall back on.

The records show merely sanitary operations, and without a lengthened enquiry, no statistics worth the name can be procured.

I submit the reports of the various sub-divisions in original, as I cannot add to, or with advantage condense, the information which they contain.

From T. E. COXHEAD, Esq., Assistant Magistrate of Meherpore, to the Magistrate of Nuddea,—(No. 172, dated the 11th June 1869.)

YOUR No. 2059, dated 2nd instant, received on the 9th, calling for information on the epidemic fever within a fortnight without fail. The villages that suffered most were Meherpore, Bagwan, Marjampore and Solmari. All these villages are on the Bhoirub. From a letter of Mr. Porch's, late assistant magistrate of Meherpore, dated 15th March 1865, it appears that, from August 1863 to May 1864, there died in Meherpore, out of 1,500 houses, 2,300 persons; in Bagwan 250 persons in 200 houses; and in Marjampore 250 persons out of 500 houses. Since May 1864, writes Mr. Porch, not a single new case has been heard of. He means, I presume, that no one died of what he calls the epidemic. Numerous deaths from fever must have occurred in that interval, and it would be rash to assert, considering the character of the information at one's command, that such persons all died of ordinary intermittent fever. I am of opinion, however, that what is known as the epidemic, had worn itself out, in at all events its most virulent type, by the beginning of 1865. Taking the years from 1862 to 1865, I should think that the severity of the disease during those years may be indicated roughly by the annexed comparative table of degrees:—

1862-63	...	...	...	4 degrees.
1863-64	...	...	...	10 "
1864-65	...	...	...	2 "

From W. G. DEARE, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Jessore, to the Magistrate of Nuddea,—(dated the 11th June 1869.)

You may recollect the very interesting conversation we had, during your late visit to Narail, on the epidemic fever of Bengal. I was particularly struck with the view you took of the agencies at work in producing these destructive fevers. You stated your opinion that the vast silting process going on in many parts of Bengal was a principal cause of the great sickness we have experienced during the last few years. I have given the subject some thought, and my experience in this district, since 1861, tends to support your view.

That the topographical character of a great portion of Jessore has of late years been considerably modified, cannot be questioned. Vast bheels are now high meadow lands, deep water-courses have been obliterated, and these changes are still going on.

Take the Joogni Bagni bheel north-east of Magoorah sub-division as an instance. About twelve years since it was a deep bheel,* it is now good paddy land. The bheel commenced silting in 1860; by the cold season of 1865 a most destructive fever broke out along the banks of the Nobogunga, which flows to the south of the bheel, and the villages have been fever-stricken since. At the same time I must remark that the Nobogunga itself is silting, and that very rapidly, and no doubt, as you remarked, imperfect drainage, raising the waters nearer to the surface of the land, caused fever.

If we turn to the villages in the direction of Kallea in the Narail sub-division, the same agency is at work with like results. I make an extract from my last cold-season diary. "Srihori Dass, a man aged eighty-five, says, during his boyhood he never saw muddy water in the river. The Chittra flowed down a clear stream, and, turning to the east at Silpore, ran below Chachoorie, towards Kallea and Gageerhaut. Now the aspect of the country is quite changed. About thirty or forty years ago the opening of the Goraie into the Nobogunga brought down the waters of the Pudda (Ganges) laden with silt; bheels gradually became alluvial plains, and deposits are still going on raising the surface of the land each year." The Chittra

* The waters of the Goraie commenced to flow into it through the Alphapore and Baraset khallas.

east of Silpore is now a dead stream, and for some years past the villages for several miles round about have suffered fearfully from epidemic fever. I think, if enquiries were made, it would appear that wherever a bheel or water-course has silted, fever has broken out in the neighbourhood. I cannot say why this should be. We must leave it to medical men to solve the problem, but I merely state the result of my observations. The river between Naldi and the Lukhipassa is fast getting very shallow, fever has raged frightfully along both banks, and Sohagara, which stands on a dead river, has been almost depopulated.

If these remarks will be of any use to you I shall be glad, and I will always be happy to furnish any information in my power.

From H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON, Assistant Magistrate of Kooshtea, to the Magistrate of Nuddea,—(No. 336, dated the 28th June 1869.)

WITH reference to your No. 2058, dated 2nd June 1869, on the subject of epidemic fever. I had to get what information I could through the police. As I have no authority over them, I cannot consider myself responsible for their delay. It is stated that there has been no epidemic fever in Kooshtea, Bhadaleea or Daulatpur. In Bhaluka only the village of Chaprah was effected in 1866. In Naopara, on the contrary, twenty-four villages were attacked, a list of which is forwarded. I place no reliance upon these reports. They entirely disagree with the theory that this fever has travelled. According to reports, it has seized upon one small tract fifteen miles square, and spared the whole of the surrounding country.

Shall I endeavour to get more correct information? It will be difficult, and will of course take a long time. People hardly distinguish other illnesses from epidemic fever, and few people can carry their thoughts back eight or nine years.

List of villages which suffered from epidemic fever in thannah Naopara in 1865.

Naopara.	Gobindaguna.	Anangachi.	Dhepahati.
Simla.	Dhuhail.	Atigram.	Gopalpore.
Chuniapara.	Bahalbaria.	Aleuri.	Talbaria.
Kursa.	Katdaha.	Magura.	Charulia.
Amutpore.	Sarupdaha.	Barbaria.	Teghari.
Hajrahati.	Bharol.	Ajampore.	Belgachi.

H. LUTTMAN-JOHNSON,
Assistant Magistrate.

On the epidemic fever in the Ranaghat sub-division.

It is rather difficult now to furnish precise information regarding the prevalence of the epidemic fever in this sub-division, as required by Government letter No. 2715 of 10th May 1869, as the time when it raged with violence has long passed away, and there are no contemporaneous records to shew the extent of its progress and havoc. We have therefore to depend on oral information picked up at intervals of business.

Woola or Beernugger.—In speaking or writing of the epidemic fever in Nuddea, the name of Woola claims the most prominent place. This town is situated about a mile west from the Choorney, twelve miles south of Kishenghur. Its length north to south is four miles, and breadth east to west two miles. The physical strength of its inhabitants gave the town the sobriquet of Beernugger. Before 1263 its population is said to have amounted to 32,000 souls; but this estimate is perhaps rather a wide one, for the present population does not exceed 6,000. In the month of Bhadro 1263 B.S., corresponding to August 1857 A.D., the epidemic broke out at this place with a virulence unprecedented in its annals—not a soul escaped—every one was prostrate. The groans of the dying and sick filled the air. The dead bodies were thrown over the adjoining khals and bheels, and the streets and lanes of the town, and the stench that emitted therefrom attracted herds of jackals and vultures. Numbers fled the place and emigrated elsewhere. The moonsiff's cutcherry was removed to Ranaghat. About 5,000 people, it is said, fell victims to the disease in the course of five months. From the month of Magh it abated somewhat. Again, when the rainy season set in, the epidemic re-appeared; and the scene above described was repeated, and this state of things continued till the year 1266 B.S. (1860), after which the disease showed symptoms of decrease.

Chogdah.—From Woolah the disease appears to have travelled to Chogdah and the adjoining villages of Ghoreparah, Katalpolly, Monshapottah, and thence to Borojagooly. It is said that in the year 1265 (1859) these places were the scene of desolation and bewailment.

Kanchraparah.—At Kanchraparah, which is situated on the Hooghly, seventeen miles south of Ranaghat, the epidemic first made its appearance in 1267 and lasted till 1269 B.S. From thence it spread to the east to the villages of Singha, Bhabanipore, Gopalpore, Koolea, Shogona, Dhokradoho, Kootea, Roghoonathpore, Dogatchoa, Bhepore, Balindee, Goostea, Ghosepara, Boreya, Morutpore, Moreadanga, Chundamaree, Chillamaree, Ghoonghoonea, Bunbonea, Sealdangah, Sonakhally, Baksa, Biroee, Muddunpore; in fact all over the Chogdah thannah. It is said that during the prevalence of the epidemic no male children were born at Kanchraparah. There were only five or six births amongst the Mahomedans. The diagnosis of the fever is described thus: first day a violent attack of fever, which was followed by death on the second day; sometimes death took place within twenty-four hours. In 1268 B.S., the population of Kanchraparah is said to have amounted to 4,525; in 1269 it was reduced to 2,400. The recent census shews that the population is 2,160.

It is certain that the place has become desolate to a great extent as about thirty Boido families have emigrated to other places, and the same number of Brahmins have left the place. The following number of families have disappeared altogether by death:—

89	Brahmins, Boido and Kayest families.
11	Malakur families.
13	Napit "
15	Dhoba "
15	Carpenter "
16	Dome "
32	Sutgope "

Debogram.—At Debogram the scene described at Woolah was re-enacted, and the sickness raged with violence from 1259 B.S. to 1261 B.S.

Srinugger.—At Srinugger, four miles south of Debogram, the disease is said to have shown itself, first having been sent there from Gudkhalee in the Jessore district, and from this place the course of the epidemic is thus described:—

RANAGHAT THANNAH.

		1257	B.S.	1851	A.D.
Sreenugger	...	...		1853	"
Debogram	...	1259	"	1853	"
Woolah or Beernugger, from	...	1263-66	"	1856-60	"

CHOGDAH THANNAH.

Ghoseparah and other places in the thannah	1265-67	"	1859-61	"
Kanchraparah, from	1267-69	"	1861-63	"

JAGOOLY THANNAH.

Jagooly town	...	...
Mullababea Sooburnopool, Simhut	1267-69	"	1861-63	"
Narainpore, Fatteypore	1269	"		
Santipore thannah	1267	"		
Fullea, Belgoria, Simla	1268-69	"	1861-63	"
Nobla and Mallipottah				

It will be seen from this list that the average duration of the epidemic at each place was three years. The most infected places were Sreenugger, Debogram and Woolah. Strangers would not enter them for fear of catching the plague. Sreenugger became depopulated; Debogram has become overgrown with jungle; Woolah was enabled to weather the storm on account of the richness of its inhabitants, and the timely aid lent it by the authorities. It is said that the village of Dhunchia, in the Chogdah thannah, escaped the general fate, and stood uninjected amidst surrounding villages lying prostrate.

No one is more conscious than myself of the imperfect nature of the above report. The importance of the subject, and the nature of the disease which depopulated several villages, and spread desolation far and wide, require a man's undivided attention for some months in order to trace out the causes and duration of the disease, as also the path over which it travelled in its desolating march. The symptoms of sickness and the remedies that were applied; the number of deaths, and its percentage to the population of epidemic-stricken